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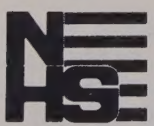

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THE

WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE

OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE

UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

The Hon. DANIEL S. LAMONT, Secretary of War,

BY

MAJ. GEORGE B. DAVIS, U. S. A.,
MR. LESLIE J. PERRY,
MR. JOSEPH W. KIRKLEY,
Board of Publication.

SERIES I—VOLUME XLII—IN THREE PARTS.

PART II—CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

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1893.

PART II.—VOL. XLII.

CORRESPONDENCE, ORDERS, AND RETURNS, RELATING TO OPERATIONS IN SOUTHEASTERN VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA, FROM AUGUST 1, 1864, TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1864.*

UNION CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

[AUGUST 1, 1864.—For Grant to Halleck, in regard to sending Sheridan to command troops in the Shenandoah Valley, &c., see Vol. XXXVII, Part II, p. 558.]

[AUGUST 1, 1864.—For Grant to Meade (9.30 a. m.), relating to losses in the attack of July 30, and suggesting an investigation of the failure, &c., see Vol. XL, Part I, p. 134.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 1, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

In reply to my letter† to General Lee, I received this morning about 6 o'clock a letter† from General Beauregard, consenting to a truce from 5 to 9, for the purpose of burying the dead and removing the wounded. The firing has been resumed, but no report yet received from General Burnside as to the numbers on the field. General Burnside reports his losses as amounting to 2,000 killed and wounded and 2,500 missing. On being called on to explain the occurrence of such a large number of missing the accompanying dispatch was received.‡ As this, dated at 9.10 p. m. July 31, was the first report of any kind made to me since leaving Burnside's headquarters with yourself, the justice of attributing this apparently disgraceful flight to the order authorizing the withdrawal can be judged of.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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*For Correspondence, etc., from October 1, 1864, to December 31, 1864, see Part III.
†See Vol. XL, Part III, pp. 691, 821.
‡See Vol. XL, Part I, p. 146.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 1, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Comdg. Army of the Potomac, at Lieut. Gen. Grant's Hdqrs.:

The signal officer on Jerusalem plank road reports:

Two thousand cavalry passed to our lett on Weldon railroad; were forty-four minutes in passing, commencing at 10.05, followed by fifteen ambulances.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Copy to General Sheridan.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 1, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Comdg. Army of the Potomac, Hdqrs. of Lieut. Gen. Grant:

Three deserters from Mahone's division, who came in this morning, state that Heth's division returned on Saturday night and took its old position on the right. They say that they heard that Wilcox's division returned.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 1, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Deserter, who left the trenches 8 p. m. yesterday, says up to the time he left he heard of no troops returning here. Wright's and Mahone's brigades were still in support of Johnson's division, near the mine. Can't learn what has taken their place on enemy's right.

J. MCENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPT.,
August 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Three deserters from the Twelfth and Forty-eighth Mississippi Regiments, of Mahone's division, who left the picket-line last night at 12 o'clock, came in this morning and report substantially as follows: On the morning of the 30th ultimo, after the explosion of the mine, Sanders', Wright's, and Mahone's brigades left the trenches to drive our men from their works. Finegan's brigade retained its position next to Johnson's division. Harris' brigade deployed in one rank and occupied the position in the trenches vacated by Sanders, Wright, and Mahone. The three last-named brigades they think are lying in reserve of Johnson's division. Heth's division arrived there on Saturday night and took a position on the right of Mahone's division. When

these men were at their brigade last they had closed up to their old position, Finegan remaining on their left and Heth's division on their right. They heard that Wilcox's division had also returned. They have had negro prisoners, whom they captured from us, at work exhuming their dead from the mine. They had from 200 to 250 negro prisoners at work there. They all say that they have seen many battle-fields, but never saw so many dead men lying on the same space of ground as they saw there. They say that the most of them appeared to be killed by artillery, as they were horribly mangled. They also state that their men are at work rebuilding the fort which was blown up.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. McENTEE,
Captain and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
August 1, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

Private Thompson, of the Second Florida Regiment, Perry's brigade, came in this morning and reports that he left the picket-line about 12 o'clock last night. He was in the trenches just before dark, and up to that time no re-enforcements had arrived that he had heard of. Mahone's and Wright's brigades are still in position near the mine.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. McENTEE,
Captain and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 1, 1864.

Col. G. H. SHARPE,
City Point:

Deserters report that Heth's division returned Saturday evening and took position on the right of Mahone, joining Harris' brigade. Wright's, Mahone's, and Sanders' brigades are lying in reserve for Johnson's division. They also think that Wilcox's division has returned, and were told that all the troops which followed Second Corps to north of James had returned. Finegan is between Harris and Johnson's division.

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 1, 1864—9 a. m.

Captain FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Parties of enemy at work on embrasure in redoubt at Gregory's house, also on new work half a mile to right and rear of Gregory's house.

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

AUGUST 1, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain FISHER:

Labor is being performed on redoubts to left of Gregory's house. Four teams have been employed in drawing logs to work on fort, half a mile to left of Gregory's house. To what use they are put cannot be seen. A fort, or very high, short embankment, is being constructed one-half mile northwest of Gregory's house. It will command the whole area behind their front line of works to the right and left of Gregory's house.

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following message has just been received, and is respectfully forwarded:

PLANK ROAD STATION, *August 1, 1864.*

At 6 a. m. 75 prisoners* passed to our left on Weldon railroad. Large details are working on fort near Weldon railroad. Lines in our front remain the same as reported yesterday.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant.
By order:

WM. S. STRYKER,
First Lieutenant and Adjutant Signal Corps.

Major FISHER:

Can the signal officers at plank road distinguish uniforms of men passing along Weldon railroad?

A. A. H.,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Jordan's House, August 1, 1864.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

A column of cavalry is going into Petersburg on the Richmond road. Twenty minutes in passing a point. Twenty-eight wagons and seventeen ambulances have passed.

T. R. CLARK,
Captain and Signal Officer.

JORDAN'S HOUSE, *August 1, 1864—11 a. m.*

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

About as many more cavalry and wagons have passed in same direction since last report.

T. R. CLARK,
Captain and Signal Officer.

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* See Fulton to Stryker, 1.30 p. m., p. 7.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following dispatch just received from the station on right and rear of Eighteenth Corps:

Within the last hour upward of 100 wagons, with a large number of straggling horsemen, have passed an open space in the southern outskirts of the city left of lead-works toward the enemy's front. Wagons still passing.

DAVIS,
Captain.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant.
By order:

WM. S. STRYKER,
First Lieutenant and Adjutant Signal Corps.

Major FISHER:

At what hour was this observed? Return to me at once.

A. A. H.

PLANK ROAD, *August 1, 1864.*

Major FISHER:

At 11.30 a. m. a train of thirty-three wagons and eleven ambulances passed to our left on Weldon railroad; 1.15 p. m. a train of sixty-eight wagons, with cavalry guard, followed on same road.

FULTON,
Signal Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 1, 1864.

Sergeant FULTON:

The commanding general desires to know how you recognized the prisoners reported this morning as belonging to our army. Your reports are good. Send them in as frequently as any change occurs within your observation.

WM. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 1, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Lieut. WILLIAM S. STRYKER:

I reported them pioneers, not prisoners. The mistake, likely, was made in its transmittal by telegraph from Fifth Army Corps.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 1, 1864—5 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 4 p. m. 150 cavalry passed to our left on same road (Weldon railroad) as before reported. No other movements visible since last report.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 1, 1864—6 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

A cessation of hostilities until 9 a. m. to-day has been agreed upon, to enable us to bring in the wounded and dead between the lines. No officers or men will be permitted to advance beyond our lines, except such as are detailed to bring off the wounded and dead, and no communication will be had with the enemy.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to commanding officers of Ninth and Eighteenth Corps.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 1, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: I wish you would let me know when you are ready to relieve my batteries on the line on the left flank. If you desire it I can lend you the batteries until such time as you can spare them.

Yours, truly,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 1, 1864—1.50 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: On account of my small infantry force I did not intend to post new batteries on the line. I have two in reserve that I can send in when I send in my infantry reserves. I calculate I shall have time for that. I informed your staff officer last night that I did not want batteries in position along the line, and that yours could be withdrawn at any time.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that my troops on the left flank have been entirely withdrawn, having been relieved by General Warren's command, with the exception of two batteries. These I am to withdraw at pleasure, in accordance with an understanding to that effect with General Warren. The Second Division is encamped in the wood between the Southall house and Norfolk railroad. The other divisions occupy their old camp.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Corps.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 1, 1864—1.10 a. m.

The following, just received, is forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding:

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
July 31, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Lieut. Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: The division officer of the day reports at 7 p. m. that a column of rebel infantry was moving this afternoon to our left for one hour and a half, followed by a train of ambulances. Also the troops massed in front of the picket-line of my left brigade have left, and that there are now more troops occupying breast-works in their front than there have been for several days. That some movement of horsemen was seen, supposed to be watering artillery horses. That in front of my right they repitched their tents again this afternoon.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 1, 1864—9.50 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report all quiet in my front during the night. A dispatch was received this a. m. respecting the flag of truce, and the necessary instructions given to the command. One deserter from Fifth Florida was received last night and sent up.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 1, 1864—9 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report all quiet in my front to-day. A detail of 300 men is at work to-night at the battery on General Griffin's left, under Captain Gillespie, U. S. Engineers.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general desires that you report as soon as practicable the number of wounded brought in, and also the number of dead buried during the cessation of hostilities this morning.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 1, 1864—11.30 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

About 220 dead were found between the lines and are now buried. About twenty wounded were found and brought in. These men were mostly colored troops. I understand that as the trenches for burial of the dead were not finished at 9 o'clock, the truce was informally continued till the dead could be buried. I have sent a staff officer out to ascertain the facts and will report.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 35. } HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 1, 1864.

In relieving Capt. W. H. Harris, chief of ordnance, from duty with this corps, in compliance with the orders of the Secretary of War, the commanding general regrets the loss of an officer distinguished for his able and thorough conduct of the affairs of his department. In the campaign of this corps in East Tennessee, and during the present operations in Virginia, while faithfully discharging, often under circumstances of the utmost difficulty, the important duties of his position, his usefulness has never been confined to its limits, but has always been forward when the occasion required to assume with alacrity and courage the office of an aide. The commanding general parts from him with the highest appreciation of his services and respect for himself, and his best wishes for his future welfare.

By command of Major-General Burnside:

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 1, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that a detail from my command relieved the brigade of the Eighteenth Corps, occupying the line on my front at 9 o'clock. At the time of relieving there was brisk musketry firing, which soon ceased, and everything has remained quiet until this time. There is a flag of truce now flying and details are engaged in burying the dead and bringing in the wounded.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 1, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that a detail was sent from each brigade of this division during the suspension of hostilities this

morning, which assisted to bury the dead and remove the wounded lying in front of my line. There has been unusual quiet on the front for the past twelve hours with nothing of importance to report.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 9TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 88. } *Before Petersburg, Va., August 1, 1864.*

I. The Forty-eighth Regiment Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers are temporarily transferred to the Second Brigade of this division for the purpose of equalizing the commands.

II. Lieut. Col. Henry Pleasants, Forty-eighth Regiment Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteer Infantry, is hereby assigned to the command of the Second Brigade of this division.

By command of Brigadier-General Potter:

SAML. WRIGHT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 1, 1864—8 a. m.

Brigadier-General WHITE, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report a quiet night in my front. My men abstained from firing on account of the wounded on this slope of the Crater and between the lines. The truce for burying dead, &c., is now being observed. My rifle-pits were greatly strengthened with abatis and sand-bags during the night.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 1, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

SIR: I have the honor to report no change on my front the last twelve hours. The enemy have had a strong force at work on the exploded fort the last few hours.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Camp near Petersburg, Va., August 1, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that General Cutler's division of the Fifth Corps was relieved at 11 o'clock last evening by Colonel Thomas' brigade. Nothing unusual occurred during the night on my front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDW. FERRERO,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General TORBERT,
Commanding First Cavalry Division, City Point, Va.:

The general commanding directs that you stop shipping your artillery, and that you embark your cavalry as rapidly as possible.

Very respectfully,

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
McCann's, near Norfolk Railroad, August 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. H. WILSON,
Commanding Third Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that [you] move one of the brigades of your division over to Lee's Mill early to-morrow morning and relieve General Kautz's division, now picketing in that vicinity. General Kautz will hand over, for the guidance of the commanding officer of the brigade detailed by you, his instructions on this subject.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
August 1, 1864—5 a. m.

Brigadier-General Chapman, commanding Second Brigade, will move with his command to Lee's Mill at once and relieve General Kautz's division, now picketing in that vicinity. General McIntosh, commanding First Brigade, will relieve the regiment of the Second Brigade on picket here with one of his regiments, and the former, upon being relieved, will proceed to Lee's Mill to join its brigade.

By command of Brigadier-General Wilson:

L. SIEBERT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. G. WEITZEL,
Acting Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The signal officer at the Water Battery reports at 7.25 a. m. that a train of fifty-four wagons and ten ambulances has just crossed Chaffin's farm, going west. The signal officer at Spring Hill reports that at 4.45 a. m. a train passed the Junction toward Richmond.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

AUGUST 1, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, City Point:

Signal officers at Spring Hill and at tower report that they see a column of 3,000 to 4,000 cavalry passing Junction going toward Petersburg; also baggage and forage train of sixty wagons.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

WATER BATTERY SIGNAL STATION,
August 1, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Captain NORTON:

Four thousand or 5,000 cavalry crossed Chaffin's farm this a. m. going west.

G. S. DANA,
Captain, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General WEITZEL,
Acting Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports at 7.45 a. m. that eleven empty cars passed the Junction toward Petersburg.

Very respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

SPRING HILL SIGNAL STATION,
August 1, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Captain NORTON:

A long column of cavalry (about 3,000) and thirty baggage wagons just passed the Junction on turnpike going toward Petersburg; also twenty-two wagons, loaded with forage, toward Richmond.

SIMONS,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 1, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports at 10 a. m. that another column of about 1,500 cavalry and forty-two wagons had just passed the Junction toward Petersburg.

Very respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 1, 1864—12 m.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The following dispatch has just been received and is respectfully forwarded:

SPRING HILL SIGNAL STATION,
August 1, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Captain NORTON:

One regiment of infantry and forty wagons on turnpike just passed the Junction toward Petersburg.

A. G. SIMONS,
Lieutenant and Acting Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 1, 1864—3.50 p. m.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports that at 3.30 p. m. "about 2,000 cavalry and thirty-five wagons passed the railroad junction going toward Petersburg."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

DEEP BOTTOM, *August 1, 1864—7 p. m.*

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH:

The enemy attacked my picket-line on my right in considerable force about 5.30 p. m., and drove my vedettes back to main line, but were repulsed on reaching there. The reserve was at once ordered up in season to assist in repelling a second charge and in following up and re-establishing my line of vedettes on the original line. I had 3 or 4 of the Tenth Connecticut wounded. The enemy is reported to have suffered considerably in the last charge.

Respectfully,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General.

AUGUST 1, 1864.

General FOSTER,
Deep Bottom:

Your dispatch received. The commanding general thanks you and your troops for the gallant manner in which you repulsed the attack upon your lines this evening.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, *August 1, 1864.*

General ORD,

Headquarters Eighteenth Army Corps:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires me to say that the work to strengthen and perfect your defensive line should be begun at once by your engineer officer, who will act under the instructions of General Barnard, chief engineer.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General WEITZEL,

Acting Chief of Staff, Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

SIR: You will please state to the general commanding that the reduction of my forces for duty in the trenches, by the loss of General Turner's division, will prevent the withdrawal for organization of the colored division, or leave me with a force inadequate to meet the force of the enemy in my front. My information leads me to believe they are stronger in my front than I would then be. At present I have to keep two-thirds my men in the trenches.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

P. S.—If the general commanding could send me forces in their stead, I could relieve the colored division.

I am, sir, respectfully, &c.,

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., August 1, 1864.

Maj. WILLIAM RUSSELL, Jr.,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Eighteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to inform you that the Second Brigade of my division has been relieved from duty in General Burnside's front, and are now in camp near my headquarters.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. CARR,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. B. CARR,

Commanding Third Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you have Colonel Duncan's brigade move about dusk this evening to the position now occupied by Colonel Henry's brigade, in the rear of the position formerly occupied by General Turner's division. Colonel Henry's brigade will move away from its present position about dusk. The gen-

eral also directs that you order two regiments of Colonel Duncan's brigade, under command of a field officer, to report to General Ames after dark this evening, for duty in the second line of trenches.

I am, general, very respectfully, yours,

WM. RUSSELL, JR.,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., August 1, 1864.

Col. S. A. DUNCAN,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: Pursuant to instructions from corps headquarters you will move your brigade about dusk to-night to the position now occupied by Colonel Henry's brigade, in the rear of the position formerly occupied by General Turner's division. Colonel Henry's brigade will move away from its present position about dusk. You will also order two regiments of your brigade, under command of a field officer, to report to General Ames after dark this evening for duty in the second line of trenches.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SOLON A. CARTER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
McCann's, on the Norfolk Railroad, August 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. V. KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that on your being relieved by a brigade of General Wilson's division, you will at once move your entire division to position on the road leading from Prince George Court-House to Indian Point, near Birchett's, and then go into camp. You will send one regiment of your command to Sycamore Church to picket the roads at or near that point leading toward Indian Point and Coggins' Point. This latter disposition will be made to protect the general cattle herds of the army and the Cavalry Corps trains at Indian Point. You will also picket the City Point road, connecting your right with the left of the Second Division picket-line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—Your quartermaster was ordered last evening to bring up your trains to Indian Point.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Lee's Mill, Va., August 1, 1864—8 p. m.

Lieut. Col. J. W. FORSYTH,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:

I have sent to Jones' Neck to have the transportation come here with the forage on hand at that camp. I presume that arrangements will be made to supply the division with forage and rations through

the quartermaster and commissary of the corps. It will, perhaps, be quite as easy to supply the division from Jones' Neck, as long as our camp remains at that point. Arrangements had been completed and the arms were arriving to arm the division with carbines complete and uniformly, which I should like to effect before the connection with General Butler's command is entirely severed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

NOTE.—All is quiet here. My command is in position. The enemy's pickets are close in front of mine.

A. V. K.

[AUGUST 2, 1864.—For Grant to Halleck, requesting a court of inquiry on the facts and circumstances attending the assault of July 30, see Vol. XL, Part I, p. 18.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 2, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from the Twenty-fifth South Carolina, Hoke's division, just examined at Eighteenth Corps headquarters, report the following: They say that some cooks of their regiment told them that they saw Kershaw's division, of Longstreet's corps, take the cars yesterday and go south. The general supposition was that they were going to re-enforce General Hood. During the engagement of the 30th ultimo Colquitt's brigade, of Hoke's division, was taken from the trenches and marched to the right. They had not yet returned to their old positions when informants left. They say that there are two field pieces mounted in rear of Hoke's division about 200 yards beyond the railroad. General Martin, of Hoke's division, has resigned, and Colonel Zachry, of the Twenty-seventh Georgia, is now commanding their brigade. They have heard rumors that their pioneers were mining in front of Johnson's division (General Ord's engineer was going out to have them locate the spot). Martin's brigade is on the right of Hagood's and Clingman on the left. These men left their picket-lines last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

P. S.—These men also state that the men captured from us on the 30th of July are now confined at Petersburg within range of our guns, and that their petitions to the commanding general that they might be removed to a place of safety were disregarded. This was a general camp rumor.

Respectfully,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 2, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that no movement of any moment was visible from the several signal stations occupied.

About 12 m. the enemy took one of the guns out of the work in the vicinity of the Gregory Chimneys. Fifteen men, with their knapsacks, haversacks, &c., moved off with the gun, entering the woods in their rear, working parties going into and returning from same woods all the day. They are constructing works in these woods; can only see small part of it; therefore am unable to say what kind of works they are.

WARTS,
Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 2, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

All quiet. No change visible in camps or lines.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 2, 1864—5 p. m.

Major FISHER:

All quiet to-day. No movements of enemy visible from station. A few wagons passed and repassed on line of Weldon railroad.

H. W. FULTON.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 206. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 2, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. The Fourth New York Heavy Artillery is relieved from further service under the immediate orders of the chief of artillery, and will report for duty to the major-general commanding the Second Army Corps.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 2, 1864—9 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in my front during the night, nothing of importance transpiring.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 2, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I was at the front redoubt on the plank road this morning at 10 a. m., and it was reported to me that the sound of picking as if a gallery was being dug underneath had been heard there since yesterday morning; this was reported yesterday, I am told, to the engineer officer and to Colonel Tilton, commanding the brigade, who did not think it worth notice. No report of it came to me. I however went into the magazines and the sound of picking is constant and distinct; as many as three picks at work. I listened carefully and am satisfied the sound was not made by our troops. I at once ordered three pits to be sunk at different points and a gallery begun to the rear. I think we should settle the question in the shortest possible time and request that the engineer troops assigned to my command be returned to me for the purpose. I would also request that I be consulted in the location of the new defensive works, and have the power to decide upon the order and necessity for their construction, and that the engineer officers employed thereupon for the time report to me and camp with my command that they may then have the deepest personal interest in their work; there has already been a good deal of unnecessary labor spent and I cannot afford more. I have 1,500 men on picket and all the rest on line except Ayres' division. One thousand of this division I wish to put at once constructing a second line behind the salient threatened, so that the place will become untenable to the enemy even if his mining operations succeed, and so that I can withdraw most of my men from it. With this preparation made, [it might] be advisable to allow the enemy to go on, and let him try an assaulting column if he wishes. At any rate I shall endeavor to ascertain for a certainty what is going on underneath, if anything. I have necessarily other work and ideas of defense than engineer officers, and if they cannot work under my orders they are more of an injury to me now than a benefit.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 2, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your dispatch relative to mining, &c., is received, and the major-general commanding directs me to say your operations of counter-mining, &c., are approved, and that any additional means you require will be furnished. The engineer detachment is ordered to be returned to you temporarily. While the commanding general cannot accede to your proposition to place the engineers under your command, yet he is ready to receive any suggestions you may have to make in regard to their operations and to decide all points of difference that may arise. The chief engineer was directed to confer with corps commanders.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 2, 1864—9.15 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred in my front to-day. Details numbering 1,900 men are at work to-night on the line.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 2, 1864—9 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There has not been much firing on my front to-day, though it is now quite brisk. The following observations are reported by Colonel Humphrey, commanding Second Brigade, Third Division: The enemy shows great activity in strengthening their old and throwing up new works. The redoubt on Cemetery Hill appears completed, and arranged for five or six guns. A considerable work was done in smoothing down the ruins of the redoubt destroyed on the 30th, and a work, I think to be used as a covered way, leading from the ravine on the left (enemy's left) diagonally across the field to this redoubt has been thrown out. A heavy fatigue party has also been at work during the day in front of the right of the line occupied by the Fifth Corps, in a ravine running parallel with the enemy's main line, and between it and his picket-line. A considerable quantity of lumber has been carried to this party to-day. I have also observed more smoke from what appeared to be the enemy's camp-fires than for some time past. These fires were well to the rear of that part of the enemy's line in front of the Fifth Corps. In the reported construction of new works between the picket and main line both scantling and boards were seen.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 2, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report everything quiet along our lines last night. The Second Brigade, occupying our front line, was re-enforced by 300 men from the First Brigade just after dark, and the line is now sufficiently full.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES H. LEDLIE,
Brigadier-General, Comdg. First Division, Ninth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 2, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred on my front within the past twelve hours, and no movement

of the enemy has been detected. The left and center of the line held by my command has been strengthened where more or less destroyed in the operations of the 30th ultimo, and is now considered secure.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 2, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have returned from Ferrero's line. He has a good position, with the addition of another battery and a cavalry outpost which I have ordered to be furnished. The only weak point on my front seems to be the salient where the new work is building, on which the woods press too closely, and I have ordered out 100 axmen to slash that down at once.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FOURTH DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., August 2, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor herewith to report that I was relieved this morning as general officer of the trenches by Lieutenant-Colonel Barnes. Nothing of importance occurred. I was captured during the truce and carried into the enemy's lines. After a long and tedious argument, I was released. I was in the lines of the enemy from about 9 a. m. until just before daylight this morning. The abatis in front of the extreme left of the Second Division is nearly destroyed and the breast-works weak.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. G. THOMAS,
Col. 19th U. S. Colored Troops and General Officer of the Trenches.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 68. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., August 2, 1864.

I. Maj. Gen. P. H. Sheridan, commanding Cavalry Corps, Army of the Potomac, is relieved temporarily from duty in this army, and will report in person without delay to Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck, Chief of Staff of the Army, Washington, D. C., for orders. His staff will accompany him.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
August 2, 1864—8 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Prisoners captured inform me that the whole of Dearing's brigade was at or in rear of the point where the advance regiments were met; also, that at the point where the road followed by my brigade strikes the plank road, and for some distance below, the plank road is defended by earth-works occupied by infantry.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 2, 1864—12 m.

Brigadier-General GREGG, *Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

I am instructed to say that rumors have reached the major-general commanding that a gun was lost by the cavalry in the recent operations on the north side of the James River. No official report of such fact was received by him, and he directs that you inquire into the matter and report the result, and if the rumor prove to be correct, you will report the circumstances attending the capture.*

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 2, 1864—8.20 a. m.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER, *Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports that at 8 a. m. fourteen wagons and four pieces of artillery passed the railroad junction toward Petersburg, and at 8.15 a. m. that twenty-four wagons passed toward Petersburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 2, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER, *Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The following dispatch has just been received, and is respectfully forwarded:

SPRING HILL SIGNAL STATION, *August 2, 1864—11.35 a. m.*

Captain NORTON:

Five cars loaded with troops just passed the Junction toward Petersburg.

SIMONS,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

(Forwarded to General Grant.)

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* For reply, see Vol. XL, Part I, p. 614.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 2, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports at 1.15 p. m. that "nine cars loaded with sick or wounded troops" then passed the Junction toward Richmond.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 2, 1864—4.50 p. m.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports that at 4.30 p. m. a train of nine passenger and six freight cars loaded with sick or wounded troops passed the Junction toward Richmond.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 20. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., August 2, 1864.

So much of General Orders, No. 10, current series, from these headquarters, as assigned batteries to divisions is revoked. The batteries of the corps will form the Artillery Brigade, under the command of the senior artillery officer present, and will be assigned to divisions for duty from time to time as the exigencies of the service demand.

During the campaign two batteries of artillery, to be assigned by the chief of artillery, will move with each division, unless a different order of assignment is indicated in the orders of the day from these headquarters.

For the purpose of discipline and supplies, the authority of the chief of artillery over the batteries assigned to divisions will be as when in permanent camp. For military purposes, the batteries will be under charge of division commanders.

When the chief of artillery is present with the artillery of a division engaged in action, he will be particularly responsible for the position and proper management of the batteries.

As, under act of Congress, July 17, 1862 (page 539, Army Regulations), the chief of artillery is also ordnance officer of the corps, division ordnance officers will report to him promptly in their department.

The brigade organization will be perfected at once under the senior artillery officer now on duty in the corps.

By command of Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 2, 1864—11 p. m. (Received 11.40 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

I will send you a report as soon as Turner comes in, which will be some time to-morrow.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 2, 1864—11.40 p. m.

General MEADE:

Deserters still report a mine in my front soon to be fired. As two brigades have arrived between my right and Petersburg this evening, I shall hold my men under arms half an hour before and after daylight.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 2, 1864.

General BURNSIDE:

The above dispatch just received is forwarded for your information. You will hold your command on the alert at the time above specified.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Same to Generals Hancock and Warren.)

[Second indorsement.]

The above dispatch is sent to division commanders for their information, and they will give instructions to keep their commands on the alert and under arms to move in any direction as above specified.

A. E. BURNSIDE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 2, 1864—midnight.

Maj. Gen. E. O. C. ORD:

Your telegrams of 11 and 11.40 p. m. received. Orders have been sent to this army to be on the alert at the time designated by you. I do not understand your reference to a report from General Turner.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 2, 1864—9 p. m.

Brig. Gen. H. BURNHAM,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Deserters in to-day and this p. m. state rumors of a mine existing among their men, and they give some details of the point mined, supposed to be the work (redoubt) near the Hare house on

General Turner's late front. The last deserter said it would be fired to-morrow a. m., though he said similar reports were circulated yesterday. The last deserter also states that two brigades arrived this evening and are posted in or near the railroad (in front of the left of your line) and under the cliffs this side of Petersburg. It may be well to have your men ready for emergencies. You will, therefore, at early daylight to-morrow morning—that is, about 3.30 o'clock to-morrow morning—get all the men in trenches under arms and keep them so until half an hour after daylight. Have your reserve roused, under arms, and ready to move to any point threatened at the same time, and keep them under arms until half an hour after daylight.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

(Same to General A. Ames.)

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. SECOND DIV., EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., August 2, 1864.

Doubt having heretofore existed as to which line should be occupied in case of an attack, the following instructions are published for the information of brigade commanders: A portion of the troops will at all times be posted in the most advanced line. In case of an attack those in the rear will be moved forward and occupy the front line where the stand will be made and the fighting take place.

By command of Brig. Gen. A. Ames:

CHARLES A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., August 2, 1864.

Maj. WILLIAM RUSSELL, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Eighteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your request for information as to the position of the troops of my command and to report that the First Regiment U. S. Colored Troops, of the First Brigade, is doing picket duty on the extreme right of the corps line on the Appomattox River, the right nearly opposite Fort Clifton. The First U. S. Colored Cavalry of the same brigade is distributed in detachments and is doing duty at the corps hospital and guarding quartermaster and commissary stores at the depots. The four infantry regiments of the Second Brigade are in position indicated in orders from corps headquarters yesterday, to wit: Two regiments on General Ames' line in the second line of trenches, and two regiments in reserve in the rear of General Turner's former position. Four companies of the Second U. S. Colored Cavalry, of the Second Brigade, are supporting Dow's battery, and the balance of the regiment is used as guard for trains and quartermaster and commissary stores.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. CARR,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 3, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

Comparative quiet reigned along the lines of this army yesterday. During the night there was considerable musketry firing on the Ninth Corps front. Major-General Warren reported unmistakable evidences of the enemy mining in his front near the plank road. General Warren is counter-mining and preparing an interior line at the point threatened. About midnight dispatches received from Major-General Ord indicating the expectation a mine would be sprung in his front. This army was under arms for an hour before and after daylight this morning. The shorter and defensive line located by the engineers is being constructed.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 3, 1864—4 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

A colored scout just in reports that Lee's division of cavalry, on Sunday last, came from the north side of the Appomattox to Dinwiddie Court-House, and on Monday marched back north of Petersburg.

GEO. G. MEADE.
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 3, 1864—10 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

Deserters report Kershaw's division as having gone south on Monday night. Pickett and Field are reported by Butler as in his front. This accounts for Longstreet, Bushrod Johnson, and Hoke, which are all of Beauregard in our front. Heth and Mahone, of Hill, are also known to be in our front. Wilcox is supposed to be north of the Appomattox, but not certain. We have had no deserters from Wilcox, but those from Mahone (same corps—Hill's) say he has not left. Fitz Lee's division of cavalry is reported to have gone north of the Appomattox on day before yesterday. This is our latest information.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
August 3, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Another scout (colored), supposed to have been captured yesterday, just came in and reports that his colored friends near Stony Creek told him that Butler's brigade of cavalry was lying at Reams' Station. General Hampton was in that vicinity with one brigade (Rosser's), between Reams' Station and Stony Creek. He also reports

that his friends told him that on Sunday last General Lee's cavalry division marched from the north side of the Appomattox River to Dinwiddie Court-House, and on Monday marched back north of Petersburg. This man is familiar with the country about Reams' Station, &c. His wife now lives on Stony Creek, and he has many acquaintances about there with whom he has talked.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 3, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Of the three scouts sent out on the morning of the 1st instant two were captured on the New Market road about three miles south of Reams' Station. The other returned this morning and makes the following report: On account of the numerous patrols of the enemy in that part of the country it was impossible to get any information regarding movements by rail. Yesterday, at 3 p. m., this man (Carney) saw a brigade of cavalry go from Reams' Station to Worth's Bridge on the plank road. He thinks it was the picket relief, as there was a regiment stationed at the latter place. Negroes informed him that the pickets had been much strengthened since the engagement on Saturday last.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

[Indorsement.]

Captain McENTEE:

Where is the New Market road; between what points does it run? Across what stream is Worth's Bridge?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 3, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The New Market road runs south from New Market, passing near Reams' Station, thence to Sussex Court-House. It may have another name, but it is known in the vicinity of Reams' as the New Market road. I think that Worth's Bridge is over a stream which runs from Warwick Swamp, near Lee's Mill. The man that made the report is not in at present, but will return soon, when I will have him explain more fully.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
[*August 3, 1864.*]

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Two deserters from Posey's and Wright's brigades, of Mahone's division, report that A. P. Hill's corps is all in our front. Heth and Mahone occupy their old positions, and Wilcox occupies the extreme right of the line. They report no changes in position since their troops returned from Reams' Station. They know nothing of a projected railroad from South Side to Weldon.

Very respectfully,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 3, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

One of the men deserted from the picket-line at dark last night, the other at 7 o'clock this morning.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 3, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Captain FISHER:

Small parties of enemy working at various points of line in view of station.

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 3, 1864—9.10 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

No movement of troops or changes in the enemy's lines in our front.

A. K. CAROTHERS,
Sergeant.

AUGUST 3, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

No movements seen. Enemy's signal officer reports all quiet in our camps and no boats on the river.

C. L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

AUGUST 3, 1864—7 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

No movements of interest observed to-day. Enemy's signal officer sends same report. A locomotive moving to and fro near Weldon depot all the afternoon.

FEAREY,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 3, 1864. (Received 7.15 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

Following just received:

SIGNAL STATION FIFTH CORPS—6.30 p. m.

A battery of four guns and five squadrons of cavalry have just passed to our right in rear of Petersburg.

CLARK,
Signal Officer.

LOCKE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

Inquire why the signal officers with corps do not report through the chief signal officer at these headquarters.

GEO. G. MEADE.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 3, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report no movement of the enemy's force visible to-day from our stations. They were busily working upon the earth-work about three-quarters of a mile south of the lead-works, which seems to be a large one. One train of cars passed into the city on the Weldon railroad. Several wagons passed on the road near Weldon railroad during the day. They have been bringing considerable timber to the work near the Gregory Chimneys.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

Major FISHER:

The signal officer of the Fifth Corps reported that several squadrons of cavalry passed toward Petersburg at 6.30 p. m. How is this discrepancy accounted for?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

GENERAL: I received no reports from the officers at corps headquarters and know nothing of the reported movement of cavalry. My lookouts at the plank road station and on the extreme right reported no movement visible to-day.

B. F. FISHER,
Chief, &c.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 31. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 3, 1864.

To-morrow, the 4th instant, having been set apart by the President of the United States as a day of national fasting, humiliation and prayer, the major-general commanding calls upon his fellow soldiers to observe the day with the solemnities due to the occasion, and he recommends

that, wherever practicable, religious exercises be held in the several camps by the chaplains serving with the army; and he commands that all operations that are not matters of military necessity be suspended during the day.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 3, 1864—1 a. m. (Received 2.30 a. m.)

The command will be under arms half an hour before daylight, and remain so until half an hour after daylight this morning.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 3, 1864. (Received 9.10 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in my front during the night. Sharp firing in front of the command on my right continued all night long.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 3, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has transpired in my front to-day. Nine hundred men are at work at ten-gun mortar battery and at fort on right of plank road.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 3, 1864.

Col. E. M. GREGORY,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: Major Lentz will proceed at once with his command, the Ninety-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, and take position in the fort where Lieutenant Walcott's battery is stationed. It is directed that banquettes be raised between the pieces, in order that the fort may be defended by infantry. The troops will be camped so as to not interfere in any way with the artillery.

By order of Brigadier-General Bartlett:

C. B. MERVINE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., August 3, 1864.

Col. N. T. DUSHANE,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that your command be held ready to vacate your present camp at once for the purpose of bivouacking on the left of the line, which position you will maintain for about one week. If you think best a small camp guard may be left behind, but the shelter-tents will be struck and taken along. You will please send a staff officer to report at these headquarters the moment you are ready to move.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRED. WINTHROP,
Captain, Twelfth Infantry, Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[AUGUST 3, 1864.—For Meade to Burnside, inclosing copy of charges and specifications against the latter, see Vol. XL, Part I, p. 531.]

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 3, 1864—9.20 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

There is nothing of moment to report as occurring on my line. Last night some force of the enemy was reported as moving to our left, but it is impossible to say what strength. Everything was held in readiness, according to dispatch of last night.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 3, 1864.

Lieut. Col. L. RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: By order of the general commanding I questioned Colonel Thomas in reference to his capture on the 1st of August. He had been conversing with several officers of our service and of the rebel army on the narrow neutral ground between the lines of sentinels. Finding the hour of the truce nearly expired, he turned, intending to re-enter our lines at the point where his own command was placed, some distance to the left of where the mine was sprung. At a ravine, which runs into our line opposite our left center, the line of our main works is not continuous, the right considerably overlapping the left. Not being familiar with our lines (as his division had been placed there only the day previous) he failed to notice the change of direction in our front until challenged by the enemy's pickets. He informed them that he was returning to his own lines, not seeking to enter theirs. They insisted, however, upon carrying him in a prisoner. He insisted upon being blindfolded when led through their lines and was brought before General Bushrod Johnson. General Johnson was disposed to consider him a prisoner of war. The officer who commanded the pickets took the opposite view

and supported Colonel Thomas. The question was referred to the provost-marshal at General Beauregard's headquarters, and the arguments of both parties (which had been committed to writing) were laid before him. The decision was reached that Colonel Thomas should be returned. This was done just before daylight on the morning of the 2d. Neither in going or returning did he have any opportunity of seeing the enemy's lines or camps, of judging of their strength or the disposition of their forces, nor did he hear any conversation or remarks giving any information of importance. His place of confinement, after leaving General Johnson's hands, was in a wretched prison—low, filthy, and almost without ventilation. His treatment by General Johnson (though known to be an officer of colored troops) was civil and even kind; by other officers it was less considerate. At General Johnson's headquarters he was informed that but 36 of the colored troops were taken prisoners; they, as he himself witnessed, were not treated as prisoners of war, but employed at policing of headquarters and similar duties. It was intimated, though by no responsible party, that many of the blacks had been killed after surrender; that their slaughter was stopped by General Mahone.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. G. LORING,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Inspector-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 3, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report everything in my front exceedingly quiet during the past twelve hours. About 2 p. m. my officer of the day reported picket-firing entirely ceased, and numbers of white flags were displayed by our men and the enemy also. He states that this was owing to an impression upon their part that we had some communication to make with them.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES H. LEDLIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 3, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report everything quiet on my front, with no movement on the part of the enemy observed. The line occupied by my command is being strengthened. Orders have been given to render the abatis in front of the whole line strong and effective.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, August 3, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

SIR: I have the honor to report no changes on my front. The officer of the day reports this morning a movement of the enemy toward our left, whether in force or not he could not ascertain.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, August 3, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

SIR: I have the honor to forward the following report, as given by Col. William Humphrey, commanding Second Brigade:

Parties of the enemy have been at work on the left, where the party was reported to be working yesterday. During the night last night they were heard to bring what appeared to be boards into their works. There has been no artillery firing during the day, and very little musketry.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Camp near Petersburg, Va., August 3, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that nothing unusual has occurred in front of my line since last report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
EDWD. FERRERO,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 3, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I understand strong efforts are being made to have taken from this department the counties of Accomac and Northumberland [Northampton], commonly called the Eastern Shore. I could have no objection to this, provided I did not know that it was in order to get rid of the very stringent regulations and system of guards by which we prevent smuggling, and in order that the sale of whisky may be unlimited in that district. It is one of the series of movements of Governor Peir-

point against the commanding general of the department, to which I take leave to call your attention. I should be quite willing to have the question settled by the votes of the loyal and respectable men of those counties.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 3, 1864—10.20 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

A deserter just in from the Fourth Alabama Regiment, of Law's brigade, of Field's division, reports that division with three regiments of Wise's old brigade at New Market. Wilcox's division, of Hill's corps, is between them and Chaffin's farm. Kershaw's division he reports to have left New Market on Monday for Petersburg. Has not heard of their going south.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *August 3, 1864.*
(Received 9.30 a. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

Deserters from Twenty-fifth South Carolina told us yesterday that Kershaw's division had gone south the day before. Do you hear anything of it, or can you tell us anything about Field's division? We think we can account for all the other divisions. Have not heard of Pickett's division since Saturday p. m., but suppose it is in its old place on part of your front. Please answer at headquarters Army of the Potomac to-day.

GEO. H. SHARPE,
Colonel.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 3, 1864—11.10 a. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
At General Meade's Headquarters, Army of the Potomac:

A deserter from the Twenty-fifth South Carolina informs us that the rumor is that Kershaw's division went south on Monday night. Another deserter from the Forty-second North Carolina, Hoke's division, says that Kershaw's division was on his right but that it was rumored it had gone south, and that on the night the rumor was heard trains were moving all night south. Field's division is in our front at Deep Bottom. We have both prisoners and deserters from it. Men from Pickett's division come in daily from our front. We have heard of no special movements there.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
August 3, 1864—10.10 p. m.

Col. GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Deputy Provost-Marshal-General, Army of the Potomac, at General Meade's headquarters:

A deserter who has just come in reports Field's division and three regiments of Wise's old brigade at and near New Market. Wise's men hold their extreme right, then Bratton, Gregg, Benning, Law, and Anderson. Wilcox's division, of Hill's corps, is lying back of them, between Field's division and Chaffin's farm. Kershaw left New Market with his division on Monday night and went then to Petersburg. The deserter does not know of his moving from there. I have just returned from a sick leave and am again attending to my duties here, and will keep you constantly informed of all reports and movements.

Respectfully,

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant and Acting Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 3, 1864—2.20 p. m.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The following dispatch sent from the rebel signal station near Cox's Ferry to the rams was read by signal officer at Water Battery at 2 p. m., viz:

Flag-Officer MITCHELL:

A detail has been ordered down, at the suggestion of General Ewell, to get an engine from Cox's Mill. Is there any difficulty in getting there? Does your picket boat go below the wharf.

R. D. TAYLOR,
Major, Commanding.

Very respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

SPRING HILL, *August 3, 1864—7.45 p. m.*

Captain NORTON:

Eighteen cars toward Petersburg, also a column of troops, I should judge 2,000, in a field northwest of railroad station, moving toward General Butler's front.

SIMONS,
Lieutenant.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 3, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

I send you a very intelligent Jew deserter from Field's division, formerly Hood's, in Foster's front. Law's, Anderson's, Benning's, Gregg's,

and Bratton's brigades, besides three regiments of Wise's command, are in Foster's front. Wilcox's division is half at Chaffin's Bluff and rest at Petersburg. He seems to be well posted as to position of enemy.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS.
August 3, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

I knew of this Jew deserter in Maryland before he went South, and his statements are all true so far as he states of his previous history. Does not know of my personal knowledge of him.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 3, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding First Division:

The following dispatch received from Spring Hill:

A column of troops, about 2,000, northwest of railroad junction, moving toward General Butler's front.

SIMONS,
Lieutenant, Signal Officer.

By order of Major-General Birney.

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Hatcher's, Va., August 3, 1864.

Capt. F. M. FOLLETT,
Fourth U. S. Artillery:

CAPTAIN: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to direct that you, as senior officer of artillery present for duty, assume command of the Artillery Brigade of this corps, and that you establish your headquarters in this vicinity.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DEEP BOTTOM, *August 3, 1864.*

Colonel SHAFFER:

I have just sent to corps headquarters a very intelligent German by name of E. Adler, who deserted from the Fourth Alabama Regiment and came into my lines this morning. I think he can give you considerable information. His information agrees with that of other deserters regarding the force on my front. He says he saw dispatch

from General Hood in the Richmond paper of to-day stating that Major-General Stoneman and 500 men were captured at Macon, Ga., by General Iverson. I sent a Richmond paper of yesterday to corps headquarters this morning.

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 3, 1864.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: As your negro troops have had a pretty hard time of service for fresh hands, I propose that General Paine shall send you from the troops on this line an equal number with what you have now, returning those you have here, for the purpose of reorganization and recruitment. I hope you can so manage it as to put a brigade together and give them a defined portion of the line to hold, so that upon them and their officers may be a responsibility which all may feel. It will be much for the advantage of the service, in my judgment, if these colored troops are kept together, and as soon as we can get them fairly reorganized and a little recruited we will have a division together.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 3, 1864—12.15 a. m. (Received 12.30 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

I have not received General Turner's report of the affair of Saturday. As soon as I do I will send in mine to you. I do not believe in the mine, but do not wish to be surprised, hence my precautions.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 32. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
August 3, 1864.

In compliance with Special Orders, No. 96, paragraph 6, headquarters Eighteenth Army Corps, dated August 3, 1864, I hereby assume command of this division. The division staff as at present constituted will remain on duty as heretofore.

J. B. CARR,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 83. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., August 3, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. Colonel Duncan will march with and in command of the Fourth, Sixth, and Twenty-second Regiments across the Appomattox River, encamping his own regiment and Colonel Ames' near the present camp of the Tenth U. S. Colored Troops, and Colonel Kiddoo's move to the left and to the rear. Colonel Duncan will be charged with the defense of the line in case of an attack to the left of Battery 8, posting no picket, however, except as now posted by the colored troops now on that line.

5. The commanding officer of the Thirty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops will march with his command at 6 a. m. to-morrow across the Appomattox. He will report in person at these headquarters as soon as the regiment has crossed the river. His regiment will halt near the Rushmore house until the commanding officer has received his orders from these headquarters.

By command of Brig. Gen. C. J. Paine:

SOLON A. CARTER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., August 3, 1864.

Col. S. A. DUNCAN,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs me to instruct you to relieve the two regiments under the command of Colonel Ames after dark to-night, provided no orders are received from corps headquarters to interfere with this arrangement, of which you will be duly notified.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SOLON A. CARTER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT POWHATAN, VA., *August 3, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

There is a rebel battery at Wilcox's Wharf firing on our transports.

G. S. INNIS,
Colonel.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 4, 1864—12 m.*
(Received 7 p. m.)

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, D. C.:

Your dispatch of 6 p. m. just received.* I will start in two hours for Washington and will spend a day or two with the army under General Hunter.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *August 4, 1864—1 p. m.*
(Received 9.30 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Another division of cavalry has been ordered to Washington from here as suggested by you.† The delay in Torbert's division has been from transports not returning rapidly.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See August 3, Vol. XXXVII, Part II, p. 582.
† See Halleck to Grant, August 3, 2.30 p. m., Vol. XXXVII, Part II, p. 582.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 4, 1864—12.15 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

Send another division of cavalry to Washington at once. I will instruct the quartermaster to provide transportation as rapidly as it can be got together. I will instruct General Butler to send Kautz's cavalry to report to your cavalry commander whilst so much of yours is absent.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 4, 1864—12.45 p. m.

General MEADE:

The following dispatch* is just received. I will direct General Gregg to give the preliminary orders to that division of the Cavalry Corps which can be most quickly got to City Point and await your final directions. I will send the same order in regard to artillery and means of transportation that was sent before.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 4, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

Direct Gregg to send Wilson's division of cavalry. Say to General Williams General Ingalls can send the transportation of the Sixth Corps as proposed, and a small regiment of those whose term of service is about or near expiring can be sent to him. Gregg should be instructed to picket our left and rear as before, as well as he can with his diminished force.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 4, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Comdg. Army of the Potomac, Hdqrs. of Major-General Butler:

Two deserters from Finegan's brigade, who came in this morning, report that their brigade is still lying in one rank. They think the brigades of their division that were taken out of the trenches and moved toward the mine have not returned to their stations. They understand Heth is on their right and heard that Wilcox had gone to Reams' Station. Their brigade is half a mile from the mine—their right of it. They are not intelligent.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Copy to General Rawlins.)

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* See Grant to Meade, next, *ante*.

CITY POINT, *August 4, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. SETH WILLIAMS:

I have received the following from General Meigs:

Your dispatch is received. Yesterday I was obliged to call upon you for 300 six-mule teams, with drivers, to aid in fitting out troops sent here from City Point without any trains. There are not drivers here even to break the green mules in this department. None can therefore be sent from this city to City Point. I have issued orders to military commanders in the southwest to send here 1,000 able-bodied negroes to be used as drivers without positive orders to the generals. They will furnish them. Fitting out the Sixth, Nineteenth, and Cavalry Corps, or the portions of these corps which have reached this city, has reduced the stock of teams and wagons fit for service. We have many unbroken, but no drivers. You will therefore send to this depot 300 wagons, teams, and drivers complete.

M. C. MEIGS,
Major-General and Quartermaster-General.

With the consent of Major General Meade, I propose to ship a portion of the trains of the Sixth and Cavalry Corps which are now here doing nothing. I have directed Captain Strang to furnish Colonel Spaulding with the drivers which he requires, but so doing will weaken the force at the depot. Cannot a small regiment, white or colored, be detailed for guard and fatigue service here and ordered to report to me until General Meigs sends employés?

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 4, 1864—12.50 p. m.

General R. INGALLS,
City Point:

Your dispatch in relation to sending teams to Washington has been sent to General Meade, who is now at General Butler's headquarters.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 4, 1864—3.45 p. m.

General R. INGALLS,
City Point:

The commanding general authorizes you to send the transportation of the Sixth Corps to Washington as proposed by you. If possible a small regiment will be ordered to report to you.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 4, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Two deserters from Twenty-fifth South Carolina, just examined at Eighteenth Army Corps headquarters, state that they were credibly informed that Kershaw's division went south yesterday by rail to

re-enforce Hood. There are other indications that a move has been made. I sent Phil. Carney and two others over Weldon road yesterday. Have not yet returned.

J. McENTEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 4, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from the Eleventh Florida, who left the picket-line last night and came in this morning, report that their brigade is still lying in one rank. They think that the other brigades of their division which were taken out and moved down toward the mine have not yet returned. They understand that Heth's division is on their right, and heard officers say that Wilcox had gone down to Reams' Station. They are both men of very little intelligence, and their information is consequently exceedingly limited. One of these men states that on Sunday last he went from where his brigade lies at least a mile to the right, and did not see them mining anywhere along the line. He says the new earth thrown up is for the protection of their guns. He knows the position of the large fort on the line of the Fifth Corps, and says he has been opposite to that fort, and that there is no mining being done there. He thinks his brigade lies about half a mile to the right of where our mine exploded. He did not hear of any mining between his brigade and the latter point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
In the Field, August 4, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
Deputy Provost-Marshal-General, General Meade's Headquarters:

A deserter from our immediate front (Barton's brigade, of Pickett's division), who has come in this a. m., states that Kershaw's old brigade arrived from Orange Court-House last night at about 1 o'clock; that he talked with some of the men and knows them to be of that brigade. They encamped immediately in the rear of their division last night.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
In the Field, August 4, 1864—3.05 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
General Meade's Headquarters:

From three deserters, just in from front of our line at Deep Bottom, I ascertain the following facts: Field's division and also Kershaw's division, save his own old brigade, are at that point. Kershaw's old

brigade of his division is in rear of Pickett's division in our immediate front acting as a reserve brigade. This information is positive. Wilcox's division, of Hill's corps, is reported as being between New Market and Chaffin's farm. This, however, needs confirmation.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 4, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The enemy are working with a heavy detail upon their new work three-fourths of a mile south of the lead-works and on the west side of the Weldon railroad. It seems to be about as large as the fort at this station, the main front being eastward. There are small working parties shoveling in vicinity of the Gregory Chimneys. No movement visible at any other portion of this end of the line. Their camps along the line indicate a greater number present than last week. Some more timber brought to the battery near the Gregory Chimneys.

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

STATION ON LINE IN FRONT OF
GENERAL AYRES' OLD POSITION,
August 4, 1864—9 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Enemy very busy this a. m.; some hauling logs to the front, others strengthening works. A party of about thirty at work on fort about 1,500 yards to left of Burnt Chimneys. A small camp in woods in rear of this fort. Quite a number of enemy's officers to the front with marine glasses and papers in their hands; seem to be watching our working parties. No movements observed.

WARTS,
Lieutenant.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 4, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that everything was very quiet on my front last night, nothing of importance transpiring. A good deal of artillery and musketry firing was had in front of the command on my right. Received and promulgated General Orders, No. 31, about observance of the fast day.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 4, 1864. (Received 10.15 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has transpired in my front during the day. Nine hundred men are at work to-night at ten-gun mortar battery and at Battery Tilton, near plank road.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 4, 1864.

General BARTLETT:

I wish you would push your picket-line to-night out just as far as possible, so as to get a view down into the ravine, and have them throw up earth to cover themselves. We must fight to do this, if necessary, as the whole line seems to be getting scared by mining rumors, and we must have a view into the ravine.

Very respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
Camp near Petersburg, Va., August 4, 1864—10.25 p. m.

Lieut. Col. FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have advanced my pickets in compliance with orders received this p. m. I think the ravine is now commanded by them sufficiently to observe any movement of troops or working parties in front of our corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. J. BARTLETT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *August 4, 1864.*

General BURNSIDE:

I shall be at home all day. Certainly no objection to your visiting me here.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 4, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report the usual state of affairs on my front during the past twelve hours. About 11 last night the enemy used cannon and musketry to some extent, and we threw some shells at their working parties.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
August 4, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

Will you please ask the general commanding if I can have permission to visit General Grant to-day.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 4, 1864—8.20 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding sees no objection to your visiting General Grant to-day.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 4, 1864. (Received 9.10 p. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

I have nothing of importance on my line to report. Fresh abatis has been prepared and will be put down to-night. During last night it is reported the enemy were heard moving artillery to their right. My signal officer reports as follows:

Major-General BURNSIDE:

GENERAL: From 3 until 5.30 p. m. two different columns of dust appeared over the city, both moving in direction of the enemy's right. A regiment of infantry also moved toward evening from camp near plank road in direction of earth-work opposite our extreme left. Condition of the atmosphere since 3 p. m. prevented a more distinct observation of these movements, which might have been made. Nothing elsewhere visible.

J. C. PAINE,
Captain and Signal Officer.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 132. } HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 4, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. Leave of absence is hereby granted the following-named officers for the number of days and for the reasons set opposite their respective names: Brig. Gen. J. H. Ledlie, U. S. Volunteers, for twenty days on account of physical disability.

5. Brig. Gen. Julius White, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved from temporary duty as chief of staff of the major-general commanding.

6. Brig. Gen. Julius White, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby assigned to the command of the First Division, Ninth Corps, relieving Brig. Gen. J. H. Ledlie, U. S. Volunteers.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Burnside:

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 4, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that there was considerable musketry and an occasional shell thrown at our right during the evening. This subsided before morning. Everything is now quiet. The enemy is engaged in strengthening his works, but no movement has been observed. Our trenches are being widened and works put in good condition along the whole line. Abatis is being put down in front of our left by the engineer regiment.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 4, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: Brigade commanders report unusual quiet on our front, with no movement on the part of the enemy during the past twelve hours. The work of strengthening our line is continued. Fresh material for abatis has been prepared and will be put down to-night.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
August 4, 1864—8 a. m.

General WHITE, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the enemy after being quiet all day began a sharp fire of musketry in the evening—opened their battery on the right of the exploded work and opened with mortars at other points. The musketry and considerable artillery was kept up through the night between the lines. By my direction, Roemer's battery fired upon points where the enemy were at work, and threw shells into the town and camps.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Camp near Petersburg, Va., August 4, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that picket-firing has been about as usual; that the enemy opened with his artillery in front of the left of the First Brigade at about 11 o'clock last night. Several rounds were fired, but did no damage. This morning all is quiet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWD. FERRERO,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 4, 1864—1 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

The major-general commanding has received instructions from the lieutenant-general commanding the armies in the field to send another cavalry division to Washington. The major-general commanding is at General Butler's headquarters, where I have telegraphed him. In the meantime make every preparation for moving to City Point for embarkation that division of cavalry which can be most quickly got there, consideration also being given to its effectiveness—that is, it must be in condition for rapid movement after reaching Washington. The artillery and means of transportation of the division will also go to City Point, but will not be embarked until the troops are embarked. General Kautz is directed to remain on duty with this army. Inform me in reply what division will go. In the event of your division going you will accompany it, and will turn over to General Wilson all orders respecting the disposition of the cavalry. One division will be posted on the left and rear as far as the Blackwater, and the remaining division between the Blackwater and James. As far as practicable, what force is not needed for patrols and pickets will be kept concentrated ready for movement against the enemy. If any modifications of this should be thought necessary the commander of the cavalry will please suggest them.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 4, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to designate the Second Division (that commanded by myself) as the division to proceed to Washington. The brigades of the division are posted at Prince George Court-House and on the Norfolk railroad, and can most conveniently be moved to City Point for shipment.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Cavalry Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 4, 1864—3.20 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

The major-general commanding directs that you send Wilson's division to City Point for embarkation. Instructions for picketing the left of the army same as already sent you. Kautz's division will remain with you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
August 4, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General MCINTOSH,
Commanding First Brigade:

GENERAL: As soon as your brigade is relieved from picket duty by troops of the Second Division concentrate the command near these headquarters and proceed to make all necessary arrangements for embarking it at City Point, with all the new horses and transportation. The division will move from here by daylight. Instructions will be given the quartermaster of the division to collect the transportation now at Light-House Point. Please report to me in person at once.

Very respectfully,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
August 4, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General CHAPMAN,
Commanding Second Brigade:

GENERAL: As soon as your brigade is relieved from picket by Colonel Gregg concentrate it at McCann's house. Make all necessary arrangements to embark with all your men, horses, and wagons at City Point. The division will march at daylight to-morrow for that place. Please report to me in person at these headquarters at the earliest convenient moment.

Very respectfully,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
August 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE H. CHAPMAN,
Commanding Second Brigade:

GENERAL: You will draw in your pickets at once without waiting to be relieved, and move with your command to the vicinity of McCann's, near the Norfolk railroad, as indicated in previous orders of to-day.

By command of Brigadier-General Wilson:

L. SIEBERT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
August 4, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Headquarters, Bermuda Hundred:

There is no probability that the counties of Accomac and Northumberland [Northampton] will be separated from your command—certainly not with my assent. The application I have peremptorily refused and shall resist.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, *August 4, 1864—12 noon.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I find it necessary for me to go to Washington for a day or two to give direction to affairs there. In my absence remain on the defensive, notifying General Meade that if attacked he is authorized to call on such of your troops as are south of the Appomattox. Only expecting to be gone three days, I will not relinquish command.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

CITY POINT, VA., *August 4, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

I am compelled to send a second division of cavalry to Washington. This will leave the cavalry force too weak to protect the flank of the army without the assistance of Kautz. Please order Kautz to report accordingly. Only intending to be absent for a few days I leave my adjutant-general and part of headquarters here. But being senior, you necessarily would command in any emergency. Please communicate with me by telegraph if anything occurs where you wish my orders.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 4, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

Lieutenant King's communication in relation to closing the port of Wilmington with torpedoes is received. I called Admiral Lee's attention to this matter some time ago, thinking myself it was perfectly feasible. The admiral, however, thought differently, giving as a reason for his views that both channels were commanded by the enemy's guns. All the torpedoes we would plant during the night the enemy would take up during the day. I certainly, however, would like the experiment tried, and if you will arrange with Admiral Lee for his co-operation, what you may do will have my approval.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 4, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding, &c.:

MY DEAR SIR: I have been reading the newspaper accounts of the Petersburg affair, and beg leave to call your attention to the blame cast upon the negro troops. They ought to bear all their share of the odium which attaches to the failure, but no more. If it be true, as alleged, that the failure is owing to their want of courage, conduct, and inefficiency, then it would seem that the negro can never make a soldier, and the policy of the Government upon this subject is wrong and should at once be changed. If they are not to blame, that fact, it is respectfully suggested, should be ascertained and declared in the most solemn

form of military investigation and report upon this precise movement of these troops at Petersburg. I have no opinion, because I do not know the facts. Certain it is that there is fault somewhere, and I think, and venture most respectfully to suggest, that it is due to yourself, the army, and the country, that the fault should be ascertained, so that the remedy may be applied either mediately or immediately by yourself or the War Department if the matter is susceptible either of amendment or correction. If the whole affair can be investigated it will be found that the plan of movement was excellent, that the strategy which drew Lee's attention to the north side of the James accomplished all that could be desired in drawing away his troops. This much I know, for a portion of this it was my business to know. Why, then, did the plan fail? Clearly for want of proper and efficient execution. Was that failure of execution inherent and irremediable in the very nature of things, and in troops engaged, or did it arise from other causes or the faults and incompetency of commanding officers of any subdivision of the army? This is the subject that, in my judgment, needs investigation. It is true that by the Articles of War, to prevent oppression by the commander upon any officer under him, a commanding general cannot order a court of inquiry upon any officer's conduct without his request, but it is clearly competent for the commander of an army to order a court of inquiry or a board of officers to investigate and report the facts relating to a given movement or occurrence in order to furnish the basis upon which the general commanding can ask for court of inquiry upon any officer, and if in the investigation of the facts of a given transaction the conduct or capacity of any officer becomes a question bearing upon the subject-matter of the inquiry, then that conduct and capacity can be investigated as incidental to the main question or investigation.

Pardon me if in urging this inquiry I am overstepping the bounds of official propriety or sphere of duty, either public or official. I am prompted by a double motive. I desire not to have this most serious reverse placed where I know it does not belong, *i. e.*, either on the plan or strategy which preceded it; and secondly, as I raised the first regiments of negro troops, and have ever since urged their employment, I desire to have my own judgment corrected, if in the wrong. We are likely to have these troops under the last act of Congress on the draft in large numbers, and if they are to be useless it ought to be known at once. Such has not been my experience, and I am ready and willing now to take under my command the defeated division of General Burnside's colored troops, and with them to attempt any work that any troops ought to try.

Subject always to have my opinions altered by any well-ascertained facts developed in the investigation to which I have alluded which ought to affect a well-balanced mind, believe me, general,

Yours, truly,

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

CITY POINT, *August 4, 1864.*

General BUTLER:

Our transports were fired into yesterday at Wilcox's Landing, and to-day at Harrison's Landing. Captain Clitz, commanding gun-boat Osceola, reports that he to-day communicated with females, white, and a contraband at Wilcox's Landing, who agree in saying that an infan-

try force of about 2,000, and field battery of fifteen guns are encamped from two to three miles from that landing. They say it is Early's troops, but this must be a mistake. I send this for your information.

E. S. PARKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 4, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The following dispatch was received from the signal officer at Water Battery at 2.10 p. m.:

About 330 men armed and dressed in light-colored clothes and straw hats are removing the engine from Cox's Mill to the wharf, piece-meal. Is it our party?

G. S. DANA,
Captain, Signal Corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C.,
No. 212. } *In the Field, Va., August 4, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

XIV. In relation to recruiting and the recruiting rendezvous in this department, it is hereby ordered:

Brigadier-General Wild will fix the headquarters of recruiting at Newport News, a healthy point, with plenty of good water and wood, where the recruits will be exposed to no temptation or interference. General Wild's headquarters will be at Newport News. The First Regiment of Colored Cavalry will do guard duty for the camp. No persons recruited in this department will be allowed to be sent out of it, but will be assigned to some regiment here.

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 4, 1864—9.50 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

A deserter, claiming to be a lieutenant recently serving on Clingman's staff, reports that the rebels have a mine dug and nearly completed, and that it extends to the Hare house, and that it is, in fact, very close thereto. Please send me any rebel papers you may get.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding Second Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding department telegraphs that a rebel deserter, claiming the rank of lieutenant, reports a mine nearly completed in the vicinity of the Hare house. Major-General Ord, commanding corps, directs me to say that he supposes the deserter referred to is the same who came in last night, but he wishes you to keep the men in the vicinity on the alert for three-quarters of an hour after daylight to-morrow morning, and to continue your operations in the way of counter-mining.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. RUSSELL, JR.,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C.,
August 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General Kautz will remain, reporting to General Meade with his mounted command until further orders.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
August 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. V. KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The Third Division, General Wilson commanding, has been ordered to Washington, and one brigade of the Second Division has been ordered to the left of the army. The brigade of the Second Division now at Prince George Court-House will move to Zion Church. You will therefore connect your pickets with those of the Second Division at a point north of Zion Church, which will be indicated by my staff officer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. MCM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Cavalry Corps.

FORT MONROE, *August 4, 1864—4.30.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Have just arrived. Went within one mile of Fredericksburg without encountering any enemy. At 9.30 p. m. Tuesday the Seddon place was destroyed.

CHAS. K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, *August 5, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Washington, D. C.:

Rebels exploded a small mine this evening about forty yards in front of Ord's left. No damage done to our works. No assault. Loss reported trifling. Colonel Stedman dangerously wounded. Our lines intact.

E. S. PARKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 5, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

If not improper to communicate, I would like to know the cause of the heavy firing this evening, so that it may be communicated to General Grant.

E. S. PARKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 5, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Capt. E. S. PARKER,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Lieutenant-General Grant, City Point:

The following dispatch from General Ord explains the firing you heard this evening.* All is quiet now.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 5, 1864. (Received 11.45 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Please send word what has been done at your front.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 5, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

There has not been anything done in my front to-day. At 6.30 p. m. there was heavy artillery firing on the right, which Major-General Ord, on my inquiring the cause, reported the enemy exploding a small mine about forty yards in front of his left. So soon as I received this information I put Hancock in motion to sustain Ord in case of an assault, but the enemy did not make any and Hancock has returned. Believing the enemy could not have made so great a mistake in distance as forty yards, I advised Ord that perhaps his object was to effect a lodgment under cover of the crater at night, and suggested his keeping a warm

* See Ord to Humphreys, received 8.10 p. m. August 5, p. 64.

fire on the spot. Unfortunately, we have no fire balls to illuminate the ground. Perhaps the enemy may have feared our mining and exploded this mine to blow in our supposed galleries. I understand from Ord his casualties from the artillery firing was slight. There was some artillery firing on Burnside's front, adjacent to Ord, at the same time. I presumed Ord would or had reported this to you, or I should have earlier advised you of the facts.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 5, 1864—11 a. m.*
(Received 7 p. m.)

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL U. S. ARMY:

The last of Torbert's division of cavalry left here at 9 this morning; it numbered about 5,000. I am now shipping the ammunition and will be loading and sending wagons constantly. Shall begin to embark Wilson's division at 12 m. to-day. We can embark them as rapidly as the returning transports will permit.

R. INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 5, 1864—2 p. m.*
(Received 8.15 p. m.)

General M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General U. S. Army:

Will it be necessary to send the ambulances of the Sixth Corps and Cavalry Corps to Washington? Can you supply what may be wanted and shall those now here be retained? If those commands are to rejoin this army shortly, the fewest number of wagons and ambulances consistent with actual wants should be sent from here, as the transportation of them by water is a precarious matter. Please ascertain and instruct me. Wilson's division has begun to embark and will be sent off as fast as vessels arrive. Our facilities for embarking are excellent. We only require transports, and I presume they return as fast as possible.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 5, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: We have received two deserters from the Eleventh Florida, Finegan's brigade, who left their skirmish line last night about 9 o'clock. They are not intelligent, but seem to be truthful. They say that they do not know much about the location of any troops excepting their own division, but they seem to have heard of Heth's and Wilcox's as being there quite lately. They say that men from their brigade pass backward and forward to the railroad and to Petersburg daily, seeking opportunities to buy vegetables, and think that if any troops

had been sent south since the explosion of the mine they would have heard of it. Some convalescents belonging to their brigade came within a day or two from Richmond. They brought no news of the departure of any troops; said that Atlanta was being heavily shelled, and that Early was in the Valley. They did not seem to understand in Richmond that he had recrossed the Potomac. They know the location of the fourteen-gun battery, or fort of ours toward the left of our line, and they say that no mining operations whatever are going on in front of it or anywhere, so far as they know, on the right of their line. They say that the enemy expect us to explode other mines. One of the men went yesterday from where his brigade lies, down the right of their line to where there is fresh dirt thrown up every day in front of the fourteen-gun fort spoken of, and is quite sure that no mining is going on there. He says that the fresh dirt thrown up is merely for the purpose of strengthening their batteries in position there. He saw several parties with augurs boring at different places intermediate the position of his brigade and that opposite the fourteen-gun fort for the purpose of sounding for our expected mines. I have a dispatch from Lieutenant Davenport, of General Butler's staff, saying that yesterday three deserters from General Butler's front at Deep Bottom reported Kershaw's division to be near Deep Bottom. It would seem that but one brigade of Kershaw's division, namely, Kershaw's old brigade, moved from Deep Bottom as heretofore reported, and that was stopped in the rear of Pickett's division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
August 5, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from the Second Maryland Battalion came into the lines of the colored division of the Ninth Corps early this a. m. This is the infantry battalion of the Maryland Line which lay all winter at Hanover Junction. When our troops reached Cold Harbor this battalion was added to the consolidated brigades of Archer and Walker, in Heth's division, the brigade being now commanded by Colonel Mayo, of the Forty-seventh Virginia. This man (an Irishman) says that Heth's division lies opposite the colored division; that he does not think Wilcox's division has returned from the other side of the James yet; that he has heard of no troops being sent south; that the enemy are afraid of other mines which they understand we are going to explode; that the troops of Heth's division are gotten under arms at 2 o'clock every night, and so kept until some time after daylight; that they are particularly afraid of an expected explosion to the (our) right of the said colored division, where a ravine comes up to a hill occupied by the enemy; that he knows of no mining going on by the enemy anywhere on this part of their line, but he has heard that somewhere on Beauregard's part of the line the enemy are preparing a mine. He has heard no late news from Early, but heard yesterday that out West General Stoneman was captured, with 500 prisoners.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

AUGUST 5, 1864—9 a. m.

Captain FISHER:

Parties of enemy at work in the redoubts to-night left and rear of Gregory house.

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

SIGNAL STATION, PLANK ROAD,
August 5, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

No movements of enemy visible this morning.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 5, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following is respectfully forwarded:

JORDAN'S HOUSE STATION.

The enemy has just put a battery of five guns in the redoubt in rear of Whitehead's.

T. R. CLARK,
Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 5, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: From the plank road signal station I have the following:

No movement of the enemy visible at this end of the line. No change apparent when the heavy firing commenced in front of the Eighteenth Corps. The enemy continued working during the day upon the work west of the Weldon railroad, also at other points of their line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 5, 1864—10 p. m. (Received 6th.)

General MEADE:

General Birney has just sent me the following statement:

Prisoners from Hill's corps state that to prevent their march from Petersburg to this point being observed from the tower on the Appomattox, they were compelled to avoid the turnpike and come by a circuitous route.

This was a voluntary statement.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 5, 1864—6.45 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you get your corps under arms, and send two divisions to the rear of Ord's left, the commander reporting his arrival to General Ord, and holding the divisions ready to support him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 5, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have received your dispatch of 6.45 p. m., and have ordered Mott's and Miles' divisions to proceed at once to General Ord's left, reporting on arrival to General Ord. General Mott will be in command of the two divisions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 5, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that my two divisions reported to General Ord as directed. They were informed that their services were not required, and are now returning to camp.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 5, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Everything continuing quiet. Your two divisions have been ordered to return to their camps. It is not necessary to keep the corps under arms. Possibly something may occur in the night. A small mine was exploded by the enemy about forty yards abreast of Ord's line on its left; no harm done. Colonel Stedman was dangerously wounded in the firing.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 5, 1864—7 p. m.

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Brigadier-General MILES,
Commanding Divisions, Second Corps:

GENERALS: The major-general commanding directs that you move your commands at once to the rear of General Ord's left (Eighteenth Corps), reporting on arrival to General Ord. General Mott will take command of both divisions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 5, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that all is quiet in my front. Nothing unusual occurred during the night.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 5, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Do you know what that firing is?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 5, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The firing is to my right, toward the front of the Ninth and Eighteenth Corps.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 5, 1864—9 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has transpired in my front during the day. One deserter from Sixteenth Mississippi was received and forwarded. Three hundred men are at work to-night at Battery Tilton.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Army Corps:

SIR: I have reason to know that should you consolidate the corps as suggested, and form the old First into a division, that General Ayres would not be unwilling but pleased to be its commander, provided the order was made without consulting him. He would not seek for it. I think the troops would all be willing to serve under him; they might not be under some other one. As there is little doing now, could it not be done as well now as at any time, if at all? So far as I am concerned, I would prefer to have it done now than at a later period, provided I could bring about the arrangement which has been suggested in our conversations. I might get rid of a little toasting in this hot sun.

Very respectfully,

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 5, 1864. (Received 9 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report the ordinary state of affairs on my line. Abatis was put down and the work strengthened in other ways. The night was unusually quiet as regards firing.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 5, 1864.

General SETH WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit, for the information of the general commanding, the following statement in regard to the mine: The main gallery is uninjured clear up to the tamping, which extends back thirty-five feet from the end of the gallery. Side galleries could be started from a point twenty-five feet this side of the tamping, running off diagonally to the enemy's works on either side of the old crater. If the commanding general desires to make use of mining in connection with the operations of the army against Petersburg, this work could be done in a few days.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 5, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Is that firing of artillery and musketry on your front? What is it?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 5, 1864—6.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Part of it is. I have sent out to see. We heard no musketry here.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 5, 1864—7.45 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy exploded a mine in front of General Ames' division. The understanding is the mine exploded short and did not reach our works or do any damage. Firing started at once and extended to our First Division front, but amounted to very little.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 5, 1864—9 p. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred on my front during the past twelve hours. New abatis has been cut and will be laid to-night. All the information we have in regard to the firing this afternoon has already been given.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 38. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 5, 1864.

I. By direction of major-general commanding the Ninth Corps I hereby assume the command of First Division, Ninth Army Corps.

II. The following are announced as forming, until further orders, the staff of this division, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly: Capt. C. J. Mills, Fifty-sixth Massachusetts Volunteers, acting assistant adjutant-general; Maj. S. Hovey, jr., Twenty-first Massachusetts Volunteers, division inspector; Surg. M. K. Hogan, U. S. Volunteers, surgeon-in-chief; Capt. J. S. Tobey, Thirty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, acting assistant quartermaster; Capt. T. Y. England, U. S. Volunteers, commissary of subsistence; Capt. J. W. Hudson, Thirty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, engineer officer; Capt. George C. Parker, Twenty-first Massachusetts Volunteers, provost-marshal; Capt. E. R. Lewis, Twenty-first Massachusetts Volunteers, acting ordnance officer.

JULIUS WHITE,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 5, 1864—8 p. m.

Lieut. Col. L. RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that everything has been quiet along my line during the past twelve hours, except that immediately

after the explosion in front of the Eighteenth Corps on our right, the enemy shelled our lines vigorously for about half an hour, causing some casualties. Some of the pickets on the right of our line ran in at the time of the explosion, but the line was immediately re-established. An officer of the Third Maryland Volunteers reports, from his own observation, that the advanced sap driven by the Eighteenth Corps, near the enemy's works, was blown up by the enemy. Our men had notice of the explosion in time to save themselves, very few being injured.

I remain, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. WHITE,

Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 5, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that nothing of importance occurred on my front in the past twelve hours. Work is continued on the defenses, and the abatis is nearly completed. A detail of 500 men has been at work since 7 o'clock last evening on Fort Morton.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,

Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 5, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that there has been no movement on our front in the last twelve hours, and almost entire quiet has prevailed. The cannonading of the enemy in front of the Eighteenth Corps extended partially to our front, where, however, there was but little firing.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,

Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
August 5, 1864

Col. J. IRVIN GREGG,
Commanding Second Division, Cavalry Corps:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you dispose the brigades and regiments of the Second Division, as follows: Four regiments of one brigade, not less than 1,200 men, on the left of the army, the picket-line of this force to connect with the left of our infantry and extend around to the plank road, as now established; patrols will also be sent from this force from McCann's to the Lee's Mill road, and the road connecting these points will be picketed for some distance, as also the plank road to the point where the picket-line strikes it. One regiment of the brigade will be posted in front of McCann's, on the Norfolk rail-

road. This regiment will throw a picket forward on the Norfolk road to its intersection with the Lee's Mill and Prince George Court-House road, and also on the road leading from McCann's on the north side of the Norfolk railroad to Lee's Mill and Prince George Court-House road. The patrols and vedettes of this brigade will be so posted as to cover all roads upon which any force of the enemy might approach the left or rear of the army, and the greatest vigilance will be required on their part to discover such advance. Everything of importance concerning the movements of the enemy will be at once communicated to these headquarters. Brigade and regimental commanders will familiarize themselves with the country in which they may be doing duty, as also the position of our infantry troops in their rear, this last that important information may be communicated to the nearest commander of such troops. The brigade on duty on the left of the army will be supplied with rations and forage for three days. The remaining brigade of the Second Division will be placed in camp near Birchett's on the City Point road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. KINGSBURY, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
City Point, August 5, 1864—10 a. m.

Col. T. S. BOWERS:

(Care Captain Leet, Washington.)

My division is ordered to Washington. Please have all the men belonging to it now there collected, and those dismounted supplied with horses at once. I would also like the Eighth Illinois Cavalry reassigned to me and be put in readiness to join the command as soon as it gets there.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
City Point, Va., August 5, 1864.

I. The division will embark in the following order as fast as transports are furnished: First, First Brigade, General McIntosh commanding; second, Second Brigade, Gen. George H. Chapman; third, Pennington's battery, Second U. S. Artillery; fourth, Fitzhugh's battery, Fourth U. S. Artillery; fifth, transportation.

II. Brigade commanders will give their personal attention to the embarkation of their commands; seeing that no time is lost; that the men are provided with three days' rations, and that proper means are taken to insure discipline and comfort while in transit.

III. Eighty rounds of ammunition to a man will be carried in the cartridge-boxes and on the horses.

IV. As soon as the men will be embarked, arms, accouterments, and clothing will be put in the best possible order, in anticipation of an active campaign.

V. The division quartermaster and inspector are charged with superintending the execution of this order.

By command of Brigadier-General Wilson:

L. SIEBERT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, August 5, 1864—9 a. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Washington, D. C.:

I sent Graham up and burnt Seddon's house in retaliation for burning the house of Mr. Blair. He went within a mile and a half of Fredericksburg and saw no enemy. All quiet.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, August 5, 1864—9 a. m.

Hon. MONTGOMERY BLAIR:

I sent General Graham with the army gun-boats and burned Seddon's house near Fredericksburg in retaliation for the burning of yours. That house has been in our hands several times and has been spared.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 5, 1864—5 p. m.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports that at 4.45 p. m. "a train of sixteen cars, partly loaded with troops, passed the Junction toward Richmond."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 5, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The following message was signaled from the rebel signal station near Cox's Ferry, and read by the signal officer at the Water Battery:

Colonel M.:

I have orders to open on any and everything, so you may expect to hear from us in a day or two.

S.,
Major.

Very respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 5, 1864—6 p. m. (Received 7 p. m.)

Captain NORTON:

Enemy have opened fire from Howlett's battery on the Water Battery. Shots fall short.

G. S. DANA,
Captain, &c.

General BIRNEY:

Do not reply to Howlett's battery until they seem to get the range.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 5, 1864—6.45 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

General Hancock is ordered to send two divisions to your left to support you if you need it; the other will follow if required. If the affair should be over before they reach you, send a staff officer to meet them and turn them back. The commander of the two divisions is ordered to inform you of his arrival.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 5, 1864—6.45 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

Major-General Meade wishes to know what the firing in your front amounts to?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 5, 1864. (Received 7 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

A blast of a mine apparently exploded some fifteen minutes ago, followed by musketry on the left of my line. The heavy musketry lasted but a short time. Since then there has been heavy cannonading along the line and to my left. I have sent staff officers to the front to notify me of the location of the mine if on my line.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 5, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

Do you mean that a mine was sprung on your left?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 5, 1864. (Received 7.15 p. m.)

General MEADE:

There appears to be no assault on my front. The explosion seemed to be on Burnside's right or my left. Reconnoitering parties are out, and I expect exact report in a few minutes. Where are the divisions of Hancock's corps to be met should I have occasion to send to them?

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 5, 1864—7.25 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

Hancock was directed to send his two divisions to the rear of your left and the commander to report his arrival to you. Hancock's corps is camped near the Deserted House where he was before he crossed the James.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 5, 1864. (Received 8.10 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

There was a small mine exploded about 7 o'clock forty yards in front of my left; no damage to our works. There was no assault. Loss so far appears trifling, except Colonel Stedman dangerously wounded by a canister-shot. My line is intact; all reserves ordered back to camp.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers.

(Copy to General Butler.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 5, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

Everything remaining quiet, the major-general commanding has ordered General Mott, commanding the two divisions of the Second Corps, to return to camp

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 5, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General ORD:

The enemy must have some object in exploding the mine in your front. They could not make the mistake in distance reported, forty yards. I should rather judge they intend to-night to make a lodgment and occupy and extend the crater. If I could get or make any fire-balls I would throw them, and keep a pretty sharp fire on the crater.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 5, 1864. (Received 9.10 p. m.)

General MEADE:

I have no fire or light balls, but will take what measures I can to prevent a lodgment according to your suggestions.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 5, 1864.

General BUTLER:

Colonel Stedman's wound is very severe. Can he not be recommended by telegraph for a brevet brigadier?

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. V. KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you make the following dispositions of your command, viz: One regiment, as at present, to be posted at Sycamore Church; one regiment to be posted at Zion Church. From this regiment a strong picket to be posted at the point where you at present connect with the Second Division. Pickets will also be sent to the right to the cross-roads about one mile south of Zion Church. All roads leading to Prince George Court-House will be covered by patrols or vedettes. The remaining regiments of your division will be kept in camp near Birchett's.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. KINGSBURY, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 6, 1864—12 m.

Major-General MEADE:

The following is sent for your information:

The signal officer on the Spring Hill station reports that at 11.45 a. m. about 1,000 cavalry and eighty ambulances and wagons passed the Junction on a road beyond the turnpike going toward Richmond.

Respectfully,

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 6, 1864.

General BUTLER:

Did you telegraph to General Grant about the reported movement of rebel troops toward Richmond to-day?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE:

I have not. Shall make a report to-night of all movements during the day. Line not working last night.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., August 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster, &c., City Point:

General Rucker says do not send the ambulances until after the 300 wagons, teams, and drivers, which are most needed, are shipped. By that time he will be able to decide whether the ambulances will be necessary. Transports, I am assured, are not detained here twenty minutes after unloading. Georgianna, Kennebec, Balloon, and Charleston leave Baltimore this morning for City Point. Orders in regard to forage given as requested.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General and Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 6, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Nine deserters from Finegan's (Florida) brigade came in this morning. They report that the enemy are not mining on the front of their division; that they are merely strengthening their works. They say that yesterday two heavy Parrott guns were being mounted in the fort near the old Chimneys. One deserter from Heth's division, who came in this morning, reports that his division is lying on the right of Mahone's, extending to the railroad near the lead-works, but can give no other information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 2. HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 3D DIV., 2D CORPS,
August 6, 1864.

The colonel commanding desires to congratulate the troops upon the promptness with which they assembled last night at the call to arms. It gave evidence of a spirit highly commendable and worthy of soldiers in the great cause in which we are engaged. To be thus prompt is the battle won. Hereafter in these sudden calls to arms the first regiment formed will have the honor of leading the column.

By command of Col. Robert McAllister:

W. J. RUSLING,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 6, 1864. (Received 11 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report all quiet in my front during the night. Seven deserters from Florida brigade were received this morning and forwarded.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 6, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that everything has been quiet in my front to-day. A detail of 300 men is at work at Battery Tilton to-night.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 6, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet on my line during the night, and everything much as usual.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

[AUGUST 6, 1864.—For Burnside to Stanton, relative to composition of the Court of Inquiry ordered to examine into the affair of July 30, see Vol. XL, Part I, p. 531.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 6, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

I am instructed to say that the major-general commanding has heard that during the recent flag of truce Colonel Thomas, commanding brigade in the Fourth Division of the Ninth Corps, was taken by the enemy and detained some twenty-two hours. The major-general commanding desires to know whether you have any knowledge of this matter, and, if so, what the particulars are.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 5th instant, in relation to the condition of the mine recently exploded in your front, has been laid before the

major-general commanding, by whom I am directed to say in reply that it is not at present in contemplation to make any further use of the mine in connection with the operations in front of Petersburg.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
August 6, 1864. (Received 9.20 p. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

All has been quiet on my front to-day. At present some little mortar firing is going on. One of my battery commanders reports as follows:

The rebels appear to have some movement on foot. They have been leaving the breast-works to our front and left in squads of three or four during the afternoon, being equipped with knapsacks and muskets. There has been a cloud of dust behind the woods, as if troops were moving, but I could not say in what direction. It is my opinion they were moving to our left.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 6, 1864—8 p. m.

Lieut. Col. L. RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report everything quiet along my front for the past twelve hours. A working party, under the direction of Captain Hudson, division engineer officer, has been ordered to construct a covered way leading to the right of our picket-line, which will render access to it perfectly secure.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. WHITE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General HARTRANFT,
Commanding First Brigade:

You will relieve the troops of Colonel Humphrey's brigade now in the trenches with your command to-night. Colonel Humphrey will furnish the number equivalent to the Fifty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers from his brigade.

By order of Brigadier-General Willcox:

ROBT. A. HUTCHINS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 6, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

At 6.30 p. m, yesterday the enemy sprang a small mine in front of the Eighteenth Corps, near Petersburg, about forty yards in front of our works. They did not make an assault. A fresh artillery fire was

opened along the whole of our line. The casualties small. I regret to say that Colonel Stedman, Eleventh Connecticut, is dangerously wounded. I beg leave to renew my application that he receive promotion by brevet for gallant and meritorious services. Our lines are intact, and all is quiet in front of Petersburg. The enemy opened upon us from the Howlett house battery. No loss.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 6, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Washington:

All has been quiet to-day. Regular shelling going on before Petersburg. At noon 1,000 cavalry and 80 wagons passed Junction toward Richmond. Richmond papers of this morning. No news save that a landing has been made on Dauphin Island near Mobile and an attack begun on Fort Gaines. August 3, Macon Confederate, late Atlanta Appeal, says the country will be glad to learn that our army has been re-enforced by many thousand veteran troops; that all thoughts of giving up Atlanta have vanished.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 6, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports that at 10.15 a. m. he saw a train of thirty wagons pass the Junction on turnpike toward Richmond.

Very respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 6, 1864—1.35 p. m

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at the Water Battery station reports that at 1.15 p. m. "a large force of cavalry was seen to our left of enemy's pontoon going north."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 6, 1864—8.50.

Captain NORTON:

The enemy have unmasked three more guns on their left of Howlett battery.

G. S. DANA,
Captain, Signal Corps.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 22. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., August 6, 1864.

The following communication, received from the major-general commanding the department, is promulgated for the information of this command. The descriptive rolls of the volunteers will be made out and forwarded to these headquarters by 10 a. m. on Monday. It is hoped that the full number of volunteers required from the Tenth Corps will be forthcoming:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, Va., August 6, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

I propose to call for volunteers to do a laborious piece of digging and making of earth-works, which I wish to be performed with efficiency and celerity. I want 1,000 men for that purpose. Will you please call for volunteers from your corps under these circumstances and with these limitations? Volunteers are wanted, to labor continuously, not exceeding twenty days, in digging and moving earth. There will be employed not to exceed 1,200 men. They will be worked seven hours and a half a day, in two reliefs—one working from 5 to 12.30, the other from 12.30 to 7.30. For this labor they will be paid eight cents each hour extra, and as it is fatigue duty a ration of half a gill of whisky will be served out to such as desire it each day, or its worth added to the pay of such as do not desire it. Laziness or inattention to duty will be punished by dismissal from the work and being returned to the regiment, with forfeiture of the pay earned. They will be paid for the first ten days at the expiration of that time, and the remainder as soon as the work is finished, which is not expected to exceed ten days more. The captain of each company will give an exact descriptive roll of the men volunteering, and when ordered will have the squad of volunteers ready to report under the charge of some competent non-commissioned officer, who is expected to labor with his squad. The details will be reported on Monday morning next, and will be ready to march on Tuesday morning. Your order will be read carefully at the head of each company at two company parades, and volunteers called for. It is not expected to take more than 600 men from your corps, if so many will volunteer. I propose to call for an equal volunteer force from the Eighteenth Army Corps.

I have the honor to be, very truly yours,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

By command of Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 20. } HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 1ST DIV., 10TH A. C.,
Deep Bottom, Va., August 6, 1864.

In view of an attack upon this position, the following dispositions will be made and the following orders govern the troops of this command:

I. The pickets if attacked will be expected to hold the line now established against the enemy's pickets or skirmishers, unless the

enemy's line is supported by bodies of troops and the attack assumes the aspect of a general assault, and they will be re-enforced for this purpose, if necessary, and unless otherwise ordered will be under the direction of the officer of the day, who will be held responsible for the faithful execution of the foregoing paragraph of this order.

II. If the attack is in force and by superior numbers they will gradually retire, fighting as skirmishers, taking advantage of the ground and trees, thus keeping the enemy at bay until proper dispositions can be made of the troops in camp.

III. If they should be forced back of the slashing on the right it will be set on fire by orders from these headquarters, but not until all hope has passed of our ability to hold it.

IV. In case the pickets should retire within the intrenched line they will, unless otherwise ordered, report to their respective regiments, to be disposed of by their commanding officers.

V. All dismounted troops in the command, and who are in camp and not otherwise disposed of, will, unless otherwise ordered, be formed under arms and take positions in the intrenchments nearest their respective camps, covering as much of the line as possible by deployment in the breast-works, and await further orders.

VI. The detachment of First New York Mounted Rifles will be prepared to mount and will await orders from these headquarters.

VII. The artillery will commence firing as soon as any bodies of the enemy's troops appear in view when they can fire without endangering the safety of our skirmishers.

VIII. The foregoing will govern the action of commanders in case of an attack unless otherwise ordered.

By order of Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster:

[J. M. BARNARD, JR.,]
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 6, 1864—9 a. m.

General MEADE:

The engineer officer reports that the explosion last night must have been occasioned by a mistake of the enemy thinking we were mining from hearing our picks in a sap near the Crater. The Crater is not in a place likely to be occupied by them. Colonel Stedman died this morning about 7.30.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 6, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

Engineer officer reports, after a reconnaissance, that the enemy must have blown up a counter mine, believing we had a mine upon them from our picking in a sap nearly over them. The Crater is not in a place likely to be occupied by them. Colonel Stedman died fifteen minutes ago.

ORD,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 99. } HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Near Petersburg, Va., August 6, 1864.*

I. Division commanders will cause the details for duty in the line of trenches to be made so as to have one-half their commands on such duty, the other half being held in reserve. They will make careful personal inspection of the number reported from each regiment available for such duty, and see that every able-bodied man present, with the exception of cooks, clerks, and orderlies, has his tour of duty in the trenches, and that the number of exceptions are reduced to the minimum.

II. It is ordered that an issue of quinine in the whisky will be made daily. Division commanders will give such orders to the surgeons in chief of their respective commands as will at once cause the necessary quantity of quinine to be issued. The surgeons in chief of brigades must see that the quinine and whisky is properly mixed for issue, and the brigade commanders will be held responsible that the same is properly issued. Division commanders will direct a staff officer to ascertain by personal inspection that this is done and every dereliction will be at once reported.

III. Every precaution will be taken to prevent sickness, protect the men from the fire of the enemy, and to otherwise reduce the loss of effective strength. When in reserve details should be made to build proper shade for the reserve camps. Regular inspections of the wells and springs from which the men obtain their water should be made to see that they are kept in a proper state of cleanliness, and that sentinels are placed over them to prevent their being injured or defiled.

IV. Division commanders will ascertain, and forward a report to these headquarters, if the medical force of their respective commands is sufficient and efficient. Great care and attention to this matter is necessary on account of the increasing sickness throughout the command.

V. This order must be read to each regiment of this corps when in reserve.

By command of Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord:

WILLIAM RUSSELL, JR.,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT POWHATAN, *August 6, 1864.*

General B. F. BUTLER:

I think there is a considerable force of rebels between here and Swan Point, led by Roger A. Pryor. Two of colored cavalry repairing telegraph line were killed last night and one missing. The line, however, is in working order.

G. S. INNIS,
Colonel 133d Ohio National Guard Regiment, Comdg. Post.

FORT POWHATAN, *August 6, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department of North Carolina and Virginia:

GENERAL: Negroes say they saw at least 100 men. Their horses were hitched in the woods, and the men were formed along the road in a ditch or rifle-pits. One free negro said they captured him; took him

into their lines; showed him their men, and told him they had 80 or 100 men. This was last evening about sunset. This morning I cannot find or hear of them. If I can find out anything certain about them I will telegraph you. Several citizens have recently come in voluntarily and asked to be allowed to take the oath of allegiance to the Government of the United States. Shall I have it administered to all that ask it if I believe them to be acting in good faith?

I am, very respectfully, general, your most obedient servant,

G. S. INNIS,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

AUGUST 6, 1864.

Colonel SANDERS:

I have assigned you to duty in Norfolk as provost-marshal because I have confidence in your judgment, integrity, and personal habits to correct abuses which exist there. The great vices of the officers are whoring and drinking, neither of which can be interfered with, of course, unless they interfere with duties or are open and public. Officers seen riding in the streets with notorious women will be arrested at once, whatever may be their rank. Drunkenness in public will be at once arrested, no matter what are the staggering insignia of officer. I will support and sustain you, rest assured. I doubt not you have a kind heart, but in dealing with offenders it is the worst quality a man can have. Another matter which is suffered to go unchecked is brawling and talking in public places against the Government and its officers. That is not permissible in a garrison. There is no freedom of speech there, whatever there may be elsewhere. There is hardly a person who has a permit to sell liquor who does not violate it. Get the general order and make the retailers live up to it, specially innholders and restaurants.

Yours, truly,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

BATCHELDER'S CREEK, N. C., *August 6, 1864.*

Colonel SAVAGE,
Camp Palmer:

The troops on outpost from Red house to Neuse road are: Red house, 36 men, 2 officers; Reserve, Neuse road, 94 men, 3 officers; Beech Grove, 69 men, 2 officers; Camp One hundred and thirty-second New York, 426 men, 23 officers; Troops B and D, Twelfth New York Cavalry, mounted men, 41 men, 4 officers. The above is the aggregate, except Troops B and D. Men of the Ninety-ninth New York are leaving daily to be mustered out.

G. H. HITCHCOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel 132d New York.

AUGUST 6, 1864—9 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

All quiet. No movement. Large parties of enemy engaged on works in woods in rear of Chimneys. Wagons hauling trees to front line of works.

WARTS,
Lieutenant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 6, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatches were received an hour since, but delayed until I could ascertain the probable number and direction of the moving column:

WALTHALL HOUSE STATION.

The enemy's signal officer reports movements of a four-gun battery near Battery No. 5 going toward our front; the battery is probably Captain Ashby's (Battery E, Third New York). A column of infantry is moving on the Richmond road. Will report more definitely in a short time.

C. L. DAVIS,
Captain and Signal Officer.

The column of infantry reported moving toward the right was an hour and a half passing a point on the Richmond road, north 40 degrees west from here, and was followed by upward of thirty wagons. The rear of the train passed at 10.30.

C. L. DAVIS,
Captain and Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

Probably a division of infantry going to the enemy's pontoon bridge over the James.

A. A. H.

AUGUST 6, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major FISHER:

Thirty more wagons have just passed the same point on Richmond road by which the column of infantry marched, moving to the right. About thirty-five cavalrymen just passed the open space back of Whitehead's Factory, going toward the city.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

AUGUST 6, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

A long column of smoke rising north 76 degrees west from here and at least ten miles distant. The woods along the railroad have been burning to-day to the right of a point north 68 degrees west from here. The enemy's signal officer has just reported a regiment of cavalry crossing the pontoon bridge to this side; also about 100 cavalry going into camp near Cobb's, and no boats seen on the river.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

JORDAN'S HOUSE STATION,
August 6, 1864—5 p. m.

Major FISHER:

The enemy have put a battery of five guns in the redoubt in rear of Whitehead's.

T. R. CLARK,
Captain, &c.

SIGNAL STATION, PLANK ROAD,
August 6, 1864—7 p. m.

Captain CASTLE:

No columns of troops observed moving to-day. More than the usual amount of wagons passed and repassed on line of Weldon railroad during the day. Operations on enemy's works continue at different points on the line.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

STATION NEAR GIBBON'S HOUSE,
August 6, 1864—7 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

The enemy have been busy most of the day strengthening works south-southeast of Petersburg, same as reported last evening. A heavy fatigue party busy all day carrying light timbers through a cut about twenty rods to right of above works and disappearing in woods a short distance left of white house. No movements of account visible in enemy's line from this point. Some dust seen during afternoon south and west of city. Camps and wagon parks same as yesterday.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 6, 1864—7 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Two trains of eight wagons each moved to our left this a. m. About same number of wagons toward Petersburg at 6 p. m. No change in camps. Quite an amount of logs and rails carried in the unformed work northwest of station.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 7, 1864—1 p. m. (Received 9 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Washington:

The following is forwarded for what it is worth:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Three citizen refugees were forwarded to these headquarters this morning, who left Petersburg last evening at 6 o'clock. One of them was a miller, another a railroad employé, and the third a grocer—all citizens of the town. They left the city on a hand-car, going down the railroad as far as Reams' Station, where they were piloted into our lines by a negro. We think they are all right. They give but little information. They state that the Danville road has been in operation about two weeks, but that very little freight is received on it. On the Weldon road they have lately been bringing up large supplies of corn and bacon. They believe all three corps of the enemy to be here. What portion of them is on the north side of the Appomattox they are unable to say. They are not informed that any force has been sent away from here either to Early or to Georgia. Petersburg is nearly deserted,

but very few residents remain, and they are all in the upper part of the town. Many of the inhabitants are living in tents in the woods above the city. The shelling has done considerable damage. They understood the divisions of cavalry under Fitzhugh Lee and W. H. F. Lee were both on the right of Lee's army, extending as far as Reams' Station. Saw quite a large force of cavalry on this side Reams' Station, about half a mile from the station.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. BABCOCK.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 7, 1864—noon.*
(Received 9 p. m.)

Major-General MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

About half of Wilson's division, 1,800 horses and men, has been embarked, and 130 wagons. Some few ambulances were shipped before the receipt of your dispatch of 2 p. m. yesterday. No more until required. I sent lists of transports, with statement of capacity for carrying troops, by mail this morning for your information. It shows that if all should be assembled at any one point there would be enough for a corps of 25,000 men, with twelve batteries of artillery. I am just informed by the Bureau of Information that "no rebel troops have left our front recently." I know the enemy keeps vigilant watch on our transports as they pass up and down the river. He has lookout stations for the purpose. He has opened on them with artillery frequently from Wilcox's Landing. Will you please have a light-boat placed at Kettle Bottom Shoals? I applied for this some time ago to General Grant, and asked also that the Navy be requested to have the buoys in the Potomac and James Rivers replaced where necessary.

RUFUS INGALLS.

OFFICE BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
In the Field, August 7, 1864—6.50 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
Deputy Provost-Marshal-General, General Meade's Hdqrs.:

A deserter reports Kershaw's division to be directly in our front here, in the rear of Pickett's division, ready to re-enforce either across the James or the Appomattox. This is positive, as he, as well as others, talked with and saw men from the division. Do you desire me to send you the deserters, as well as their information, or is their information sufficient?

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp, and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

AUGUST 7, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain FISHER:

All quiet in enemy's works this day. A heavy column of dust arose above woods to west of this station. It continued two hours and a half, but the cause of it could not be seen from this station.

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

STATION NEAR GIBBON'S HOUSE,
August 7, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

Nothing of unusual interest has been noticed from station to-day. Scattering column of infantry, probably 100 strong, marching to the left; was noticed at a point west-by-north of station on a road through a corn-field. Work has been suspended on the rebel works during the day. Apparent cessation of hostilities on the center of the Eighteenth Corps line. Both pickets were on their works apparently engaged in conversation, but went in their works at 4.15.

B. W. MARCY.

STATION NEAR GIBBON'S HOUSE,
August 7, 1864—6 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Nothing of importance noticed in front of this station to-day. A cessation of hostilities in front of center of Eighteenth Corps between 3 and 4 this p. m., pickets of both sides appearing openly on their works. Artillery in front of right of Ninth Corps engaged between hours of 3.30 and 4.30 p. m.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 7, 1864—7 p. m.

Captain CASTLE:

A new work commenced in rear of second line of works and directly in rear of Gregory's house from station. Few shots exchanged from battery on our front and battery on right of plank road. Unusually quiet along enemy's lines. No visible change in camps.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 7, 1864—7.20 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that one of my lookouts saw this evening dust rising from a road to the right of the lead-works and leading into Petersburg. The dust extended about the distance of half a mile along the road. At one point he was able to see the column for a few minutes and to distinguish that it was infantry. It passed through the city and apparently halted upon reaching the left bank of the Appomattox. He supposed it to have been a brigade of about 2,000 men. An officer on another station saw the same bank of dust, and states that it seemed to be rising from the road for over two hours, but the above account is the clearest I have had. No evening report yet from the plank road station, which may throw more light upon it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 205. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *Before Petersburg, Va., August 7, 1864.*

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3. The Fourth New York Heavy Artillery is assigned to the First Division of the corps, and will report accordingly.

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By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 7, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance occurred in my front during the past night. Considerable picket-firing in front of the command on my right.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 7, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Two deserters have just been sent in by General Crawford. One of them is an artilleryman, and can give information as to the planting of some heavy guns by the enemy in front of our position near the plank road. I send these men up.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 7, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report everything quiet in my front to-day. A detail of 300 men is at work to-night at Battery Tilton.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 194. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *August 7, 1864.*

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2. In compliance with orders from headquarters Army of the Potomac, the Twenty-second Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers will proceed, with the least practicable delay, to report to Brig. Gen. R. Ingalls, chief quartermaster, at City Point, for temporary duty at the repair depot.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 7, 1864.

Lieut. Col. FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:

COLONEL: Two deserters came into my lines last night—one, named Burton, belonged to Pegram's artillery battalion, Letcher's battery, the other to the Eighth Alabama. The former being an intelligent man I proceeded with him to the front, and have obtained the following information: Resting on the left of the plank road and about 400 yards from the enemy's lines is a battery of two 36-pounders concealed by cedars. Pits are being dug for three 62-pounders at the same spot. McIntosh's battalion of four companies is in the work opposite our work on Bartlett's front. To the enemy's right of that work are four Napoleons, under Captain Dement, of Baltimore. Eight mortars have been placed in the crater produced by the explosion on the 30th instant. The enemy's infantry does not extend farther to our left than the barn near the new fort lately reported. Beyond that as far as the lead-works the lines are held by Pegram's battalion of artillery. The enemy has about twenty-one guns between the Gregory house and the lead-works. He has but one 3-inch rifled gun in the new work opposite and beyond our left. The lead-works are used as a commissary department and have large supplies. They are guarded by two regiments of Kirkland's brigade, of Heth's division, North Carolina troops. He states that the mine exploded by the enemy on Friday was generally considered to be a failure, but that there is another near that point and which is intended to destroy the battery that fires upon the city. He reports that the artillery of Hill's corps consists of five battalions, Colonel Walker, chief of artillery, commanding. These battalions are Pegram's, five companies, twenty-one guns; McIntosh's, four companies, number of guns not known; Johnson's, five companies, number of guns not known; Garnett's, four companies, Major Reilly commanding; ———, four companies, commander's name not remembered. The concealed battery of 32-pounders bears upon a train on the plain in front of your headquarters. This man states that the enemy can see our troops or batteries passing that point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 7, 1864. (Received 6.30 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

Your dispatch in reference to Colonel Thomas received. It is the fact that Colonel Thomas was taken prisoner, and I had supposed that the information had gone to the headquarters Army of the Potomac. Upon investigation I find that the report stating the fact was delayed for more explicit information, which I directed my inspector-general to procure, and by some oversight this information has not been forwarded, but will be early this morning. It was of no military importance, as Colonel Thomas was taken in blindfolded and sent out at night without any correspondence with us.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 7, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual occurred on my front last night. There was considerable mortar firing by enemy without doing us any damage.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
August 7, 1864.

Captain PARKER:

I am sorry to trouble you, but am very anxious to know if anything has been heard from General Grant, or when he will arrive.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

Nothing positive or direct has been heard from General Grant.

E. S. PARKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *August 7, 1864.*

Captain PARKER:

General Burnside requests me to ask when General Grant is expected here. Please answer and oblige.

Very respectfully,

FRED. T. BICKFORD,
Operator Military Telegraph.

We have no information from General Grant and hence can form no conjecture as to when he will return.

E. S. PARKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *August 7, 1864.*

General BURNSIDE:

General Grant has not passed Fortress Monroe. We have no information that he has left Washington. He has not communicated with us here since he left. He should be here early to-morrow.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 7, 1864—9 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred on my front to-day beyond a fierce mortar shelling by the enemy about 4 p. m. Major Chipman, Twenty-ninth Massachusetts, was killed. We suffered no other damage.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 7, 1864.

Lieut. Col. L. RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report all quiet in my front for the past twelve hours, except a fierce mortar-firing about 4 p. m., lasting about one hour, causing several casualties, among which, I regret to say, was the death of Maj. Charles Chipman, Twenty-ninth Massachusetts Volunteers, commanding Fourteenth New York Heavy Artillery.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. WHITE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

Major Chipman was not instantly killed, but can only live a few hours, as a large piece of shell passed through his head.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., SECOND DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., August 7, 1864.

Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that nothing unusual occurred in this front during my tour as general of the trenches. Along the entire front parties are at work strengthening the line. In the First Division a traverse is completed, enabling the pickets to be relieved without exposure. In the Second Division abatis is being put in position, trenches widened, and traverses built. The Third Division are strengthening their lines, and running a gallery on their right to discover if the enemy is mining their line. A large detail is at work enlarging and strengthening the fourteen-gun battery.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. R. BLISS,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade, General of the Trenches.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 7, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

SIR: I have the honor to report all quiet on my front; the usual picket-firing still continues. Brigadier-General Hartranft, with First Brigade, relieved the Second Brigade on the line last night.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 7, 1864—8 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: The commander of the cavalry brigade picketing on our left has furnished no report since relieving the brigade of the Third Cavalry Division. Please direct him to report, as before, anything im-

portant thaυ occurs to the corps commander on the left, Major-General Warren, and also to these headquarters, which he will likewise keep posted as to the condition of affairs in his front, morning and evening. The commanding general thinks that your headquarters should be at some point central to your command, where you could be speedily reached from these headquarters and communicate readily with your whole command.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, *August 7, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Your telegram was received last evening. The appointment of Colonel Stedman as brigadier by brevet for gallant and meritorious service was made yesterday.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, *August 7, 1864—7.12 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

The brevet of brigadier-general has been conferred on Colonel Stedman. I learn he is deceased. Whom shall the appointment be sent to?

Respectfully,

JAS. A. HARDIE,
Colonel and Inspector-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 7, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT, or, in his absence,
SECRETARY OF WAR,
Washington:

All quiet in the lines of our armies since last advices. Enemy moved to Richmond ten passenger and three freight cars filled with troops. They did not cross at Drewry's Bluff. Did not stop in front of us, or they would not have been put on cars. Fourteen wagons and a drove of beeves crossed this eve at Chaffin's Bluff. Kershaw's division is in my front, between the Appomattox and James. From the accounts in rebel papers to August 4 I do not credit Herald's report of Farragut's success. Would it were true.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 7, 1864—10 a. m.

G. V. FOX,
Assistant Secretary of the Navy:

The Richmond Examiner of the 6th has:

MOBILE, *August 4.*

Yesterday and last evening the enemy threw an infantry force on Dauphin Island, seven miles from Fort Gaines. The fleet outside is large. This morning the Federal double-ender opened on the transport Dick Keys, and then on the fort, which is

slowly replying. General Maury calls on all to enroll themselves for battle. Great confidence prevails. A Federal force estimated at 16,000 occupied Holly Springs, Miss.

No other news.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 7, 1864—5.05 p. m.

Capt. G. S. DANA,
Signal Officer, Headquarters Tenth Army Corps:

Lookout for movements of the enemy across the river or toward Richmond. A heavy train just went that way loaded with troops. Anything new?

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 7, 1864.

Col. T. S. BOWERS:

Is General Grant at City Point?

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

He is not.

E. S. PARKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 7, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER:

General Stedman was not married. Commission should be sent to his mother, Mrs. Griffin Stedman, Pequot House, New London, Conn.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 7, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

Is there anything specially going on in your front in connection with the artillery firing?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 7, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing unusual in my front. Some artillery firing and little more musketry than usual somewhere to my left.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 7, 1864.

Brigadier-General VOGDES,
Norfolk:

The commanding general directs that no more raids be made into North Carolina without first submitting it to him.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

NORFOLK, *August 7, 1864.*

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

The telegram of the major-general commanding in regard to raids in North Carolina has been received. The late raid was ordered by General Shepley, delayed by unavoidable causes until after his departure, and was carried out by me. The order in reference to recruits was enforced upon receipt of the first telegram upon the subject.

Very respectfully,

I. VOGDES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 8, 1864—11.20 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

General Warren reports that a lieutenant of a Georgia regiment, who deserted to us last night, states that their papers of Saturday reported our fleet victorious in Mobile Bay, and that the Nashville (iron-clad) and Selma (cotton-clad) were sunk by our vessels in the bay. Will send report by Colonel Sharpe as soon as received.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
August 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from the Eleventh Alabama, Sanders' brigade, Mahone's division, has been forwarded this p. m. from headquarters Fifth Corps. He came into our lines this a. m. He reports

only two divisions of A. P. Hill's corps (Heth's and Mahone's) in our front, which, with Beauregard's two divisions, comprises all the force south of the Appomattox. He has no other important information. A deserter from Pegram's battalion of artillery came into the lines of General Crawford, Fifth Army Corps, yesterday morning. His information corroborates our latest regarding the position of the enemy, though he has heard of no troops having been sent away from Lee's or Beauregard's commands. On the contrary, he has heard that troops were coming from Hood to Lee. He understands all of Ewell's old corps to be in the Valley with Early. The following is the latest information relative to the position of the different divisions of Lee's and Beauregard's commands: Longstreet—Pickett's division, in front of Major-General Butler; Kershaw's division, in rear of Pickett's in reserve; Field's division, at New Market, near Deep Bottom. A. P. Hill—Mahone's division, right of (enemy's) line, south of the Appomattox River; Heth's division, joining the left of Mahone's; Wilcox's division, at Chaffin's farm. Beauregard—Hoke's division, on left of Heth's; B. Johnson's, on left of Hoke's, and extending to the Appomattox, in front of the Eighteenth Corps. It is not thought that any force by division has been sent away from Lee's or Beauregard's commands, though scattering brigades may have left, escaping our notice. The above information is corroborated from all quarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 8, 1864—9 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

The above, just received, forwarded as the latest information.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF WASHINGTON, 22D ARMY CORPS,
Washington, D. C., August 8, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

General Halleck informs me that you may send some of the heavy artillery regiments for duty in the forts here. As Colonel Whistler is now commanding a brigade in these works, I shall be glad to have his regiment sent if it can be spared.

C. C. AUGUR,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
August 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A lieutenant and private from the First Confederate Battalion, Davis' (Mississippi) brigade, Heth's division, of Hill's corps,

deserted and came into our lines at 3 o'clock this a. m. The substance of their information is as follows: That there are four divisions of the enemy on the south side of the Appomattox River—Anderson's old division and Heth's division, of Hill's corps, and Hoke's and Bushrod Johnson's divisions, of Beauregard's command; that they are posted from the enemy's right to left as follows: right—Mahone's division, a brigade of which (Finegan's) extends to the left of the Jerusalem plank road; the right of the division extending to the lead-works on the Weldon railroad; next, Heth's division, extending from the left of Mahone's division (a point to the left of and not far from the Jerusalem plank road) to Clingman's brigade, of Hoke's division, of Beauregard's command; next, Hoke's division, of Beauregard's command, with Clingman's brigade on the right; left—Bushrod Johnson's division, of Beauregard's command; that since the recent fight (July 30) the above disposition of forces was made; that the corps of Longstreet, or two divisions, Field's and Kershaw's, have not returned to our front, and it was understood that all or the greater part of them had been sent to re-enforce Early or Hood; that it was understood in the rebel lines that mining was being done in the vicinity of the position occupied by our colored troops, information of which informant has given to General Warren. The lieutenant saw late Richmond papers giving accounts of our attack on Mobile. They admit the sinking of two of their gun-boats; also accounts of the occupation and destruction of Milledgeville, Ga., by a raiding party from Sherman's army.

All of which is respectfully forwarded.

Your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

P. S.—Information from a reliable source shows that a considerable force of infantry has been sent to Early and passed through Staunton, Va. (Friday, July 29), via Lynchburg; also that no trains are running on the Virginia Central Railroad from Richmond beyond Beaver Dam Station.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
In the Field, August 8, 1864—10.40 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
Deputy Provost-Marshal-General, City Point:

I have just examined three deserters and one prisoner. I have found out to my entire satisfaction now where Lane and Conner are. They are near New Market with Field's division. The line is as follows: Lane on their extreme right, then Conner, then Bratton, then Benning, Gregg, Law, and Anderson on their extreme left. This is positive. I have also received an additional copy of to-day's Richmond Enquirer and Whig. Will send you a copy in the morning. The news is as I gave it to you, save that Buchanan, besides being a prisoner, has lost a leg.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp, Assistant Provost-Marshal.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 8, 1864—10.50 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The following reports have just been received and are respectfully forwarded:

PLANK ROAD STATION, *August 8, 1864.*

Fatigue party of 180 men disappeared in dug way in direction of Petersburg; working on front line of works north-northwest from station.

FULTON,
Sergeant.

FIFTH CORPS SIGNAL STATION, *August 8, 1864.*

No change or movement observed. Enemy at work on first line of works.

WARTS,
Lieutenant.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant.
By order:

WM. S. STRYKER,
First Lieutenant, Adjutant Signal Corps.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 8, 1864—7 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

A new work commenced in rear of second line of works and directly in rear of Gregory's house from station. A few shots exchanged between battery on our front and battery on right of plank road. Unusually quiet along enemy's lines. No visible change in camp.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

SIGNAL STATION, PLANK ROAD,
August 8, 1864—7 p. m.

Captain CASTLE:

The fatigue party mentioned in last report disappeared in ravine or behind the bluff on left of forts on our right, or 40 degrees west of north from station; were moving toward the rear of forts on our right. They continue to work on third line of works in rear of Gregory's house, also on front line at nearest point from station. No movement of troops or change of camps visible.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The following reports have just been received, and are respectfully forwarded:

GIBBON'S HOUSE STATION, *August 8, 1864.*

Enemy very busy all day on fort southeast of white house; also digging on work west-northwest from this point. Rather more teams visible than usual on the different roads leading south from the city, but moving irregularly and in small squads. Two caissons moved from the city about 7 a. m., disappearing in woods near Farley's house. Nothing has been seen to indicate the movement of any considerable body inside the enemy's line to-day. Dense smokes west and north of city make close observation difficult.

JORDAN,
Sergeant.

JORDAN'S HOUSE, *August 8, 1864.*

Picket-firing on Ninth and Eighteenth Corps lines. Large columns of black smoke rising out of woods on line of P[etersburg] and R[ichmond] Railroad, at a point north-northwest of station. Dense volume of smoke commenced ascending suddenly from woods on left of lead-works, south-southwest of station, on extreme left of Ninth Corps line. The whole range of hills and the town have been completely enveloped in smoke so that nothing could be observed with distinctness.

M.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant.
By order:

WM. S. STRYKER,
First Lieutenant, Adjutant Signal Corps.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 212. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *August 8, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

2. Brig. Gen. D. McM. Gregg, commanding cavalry, will at once increase to 150 men the detachment (100 men) ordered to be detailed from the Cavalry Corps as a guard for the general cattle herd near Coggins' Point, Va.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

List of batteries of volunteer service whose terms will expire during present year, with statement of number of recruits required, in addition to those that remain, to fill the batteries to maximum.

Batteries.	To be mustered out.	Number of men to remain.	Number of men required to fill battery.
3d Maine	Dec. 11, 1864	134	13
4th Maine	Dec. 21, 1864	110	37
A, 1st New Hampshire	Sept. 26, 1864	95	52
C, 1st Massachusetts	Sept. 5, 1864	63	84
E, 1st Massachusetts	Dec. 3, 1864	71	76
A, 1st Rhode Island	June 6, 1864	60	87
B, 1st Rhode Island	Aug. 13, 1864	46	101
E, 1st Rhode Island	Sept. 30, 1864	71	76
C, 1st New York	Sept. 6, 1864	77	70
D, 1st New York	Sept. 6, 1864	112	35
E, 1st New York	Sept. 13, 1864	38	109
G, 1st New York	Sept. 22, 1864	140	7
H, 1st New York	Oct. 17, 1864	79	68
L, 1st New York	Oct. 25, 1864	125	22
11th New York Independent	Jan. 6, 1865	70	77
12th New York Independent	Nov. 18, 1864	115	32
15th New York Independent	Not known.		
A, 1st New Jersey	Aug. 12, 1864	82	65
B, 1st New Jersey	Sept. 3, 1864	108	39
D, Independent Pennsylvania	Sept. 24, 1864	121	26
H, 1st Ohio	Nov. 7, 1864	100	47

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General, Chief of Staff.

ARTILLERY HDQRS., ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 8, 1864.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 8, 1864.

The commanding officer of the Second Division will detail 500 men for fatigue. The commanding officer of the Third Division will detail 700 men, properly officered, for the same purpose. The details will be at their respective division headquarters at 6 p. m. The commanding officer of the Third Division will designate an officer of the rank of colonel to have charge of the entire detail from the corps. That officer will report for information as to the work to be done to Captain Mendell, engineer officer, at the engineer camp, near headquarters Army of the Potomac, at 3 o'clock this p. m. He will send for the division details in time to conduct them to the point designated by Captain Mendell before 7 p. m.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 8, 1864—9.20 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance transpired in my front last night. Two deserters have just come in. One a second lieutenant First Georgia Battery. They will be sent forward.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 8, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I send up this morning a lieutenant of a Georgia regiment who deserted to us last night. He says they are very short of rations, so that with the allowance the men are hungry all the time. On Saturday, he says, their papers reported our fleet victorious over the Confederates in Mobile Bay. The Nashville (iron-clad) was sunk, and so was the Selma (cotton-clad).

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 8, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Two deserters have just been sent in by General Crawford. One of them is an artilleryman, and can give information as to the planting of some heavy guns by the enemy in front of our position near the plank road. I send these men up.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 8, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I think I can capture or drive back the enemy's pickets on my left and occupy their places with my own. They have always confined themselves to watching us, and have not molested our working parties. As the siege operations on my front have been co-operative with General Burnside's preparations for an assault, the driving of these men back might have caused such constant firing on our lines as to have greatly delayed our construction of batteries and approaches, and has therefore been a part of the engineer operations, to be done or not, as the engineers dictated. Our works are now in such state that any more hostile attitude between the two lines will be at least as injurious to the enemy as to ourselves. It will cost us a few lives daily and an expenditure of ammunition and a stoppage of the enemy deserting to us and the information thus obtained. It will prevent him from getting water from the ravine between us, and cause him the same expenditure of ammunition and men as ourselves. If there are no objections made I shall make my arrangements to-day or to-morrow to drive the enemy's pickets back.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 8, 1864—1.25 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Your written dispatch will be submitted to the major-general commanding as soon as he is disengaged from the Court of Inquiry at the headquarters of the Second Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 8, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding desires that you will suspend for a day or two driving back the enemy's pickets, as upon leaving here Lieutenant-General Grant requested him to remain strictly on the defensive until his return. The major-general commanding will communicate with you immediately upon the return of the lieutenant-general.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 8, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

I have the honor to report all quiet in my front during the day. A detail of 400 men is at work to-night at Battery Tilton.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
Camp near Petersburg, August 8, 1864—8 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Colonel Welch, commanding Third Brigade, reports a heavy column of the enemy moving to our left. They are plainly seen passing a large fire which is burning brightly. They are moving as though it was their intention to attack our left.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. J. BARTLETT,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. THIRTY-NINTH MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS,
August 8, 1864—7 p. m.

Capt. GEORGE MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CAPTAIN: A body of troops, say a brigade of infantry, have passed within an hour from the enemy's right to our right. A large fire is burning on their right, seemingly in front of their line of battle, which they seem to be endeavoring to extinguish; otherwise all quiet.

Respectfully,

CHAS. L. PEIRSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Division Field Officer of the Day.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 8, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that nothing of interest has occurred on our line within the past twelve hours. The usual picket-firing took place during the night.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General, Commanding.
By LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[AUGUST 8, 1864.—For Stanton to Burnside, relative to composition of the Court of Inquiry ordered to examine into the affair of July 30, see Vol. XL, Part I, p. 532.]

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
August 8, 1864.

Captain PARKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Have you heard anything of General Grant yet?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 8, 1864.*

Major-General BURNSIDE:

General Grant passed Fort Monroe at 12 to-day. Expect him now every moment.

E. S. PARKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 8, 1864—8 a. m.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that everything has been quiet along my front during the past twelve hours. There was considerable firing on the extreme left during the night. The covered way leading to the picket-line, which was constructed on the night of the 6th instant, is unserviceable, as it is flooded with water.

I remain, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. WHITE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 40. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS, *August 8, 1864.*

I. After dark this evening Lieutenant-Colonel Barnes, commanding First Brigade, will relieve the Twenty-first and Twenty-ninth Massachusetts from the front line and put in the Fifty-sixth, Fifty-seventh, and Fifty-ninth Massachusetts Volunteers. Lieutenant-Colonel Robinson, commanding Second Brigade, will relieve the Fourteenth New York Artillery and put in the Third Maryland and One hundred and seventy-ninth New York Volunteers. The troops of the First Brigade will hold the left portion of the line, and those of the Second Brigade the right portion.

II. Hereafter, until further orders, the relieving of troops in the front line will always be arranged by brigade commanders keeping 450 men from each brigade constantly in the front line, those from the First Brigade on the left, and those from the Second Brigade on the right, and relieving every two days. The Thirty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers will not be exempt, until further orders from these headquarters, from their share of duty in the trenches.

By command of Brigadier-General White:

C. J. MILLS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 8, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that everything has been quiet on my front during the past twelve hours. I have ordered additional traverses erected in the railroad cut for the protection of the troops moving to and from the front line, and this work is in progress.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
August 8, 1864—8 a. m.

Colonel RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the usual sharpshooting and mortar firing continues. Captain Roemer reported this morning that that portion of the new line now being constructed under Lieutenant Benyaurd, of the Engineers, running left from Roemer, is enfiladed by the enemy's fort recently blown up, and the fire of their sharpshooters from that point, and I would recommend a correction of the line.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

BERMUDA, *August 8, 1864.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Please inform me if Kautz's cavalry division has been permanently detached from the Army of the James. I am desirous of knowing, as it is necessary for the quartermaster to send in his monthly reports if not ordered to some other command.

J. B. HOWARD,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief Quartermaster.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 8, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel HOWARD,
Bermuda:

Kautz's cavalry still belongs to our army. It is only lent to the Army of the Potomac.

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., August 8, 1864.

Col. J. R. HAWLEY,
Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, Comdg. Second Brigade:

COLONEL: I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to state that the Sixteenth New York Heavy Artillery has been selected to furnish the volunteers called for in General Orders, No. 22, from corps headquarters.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., August 8, 1864.

Maj. T. J. STRONG,
Sixteenth New York Heavy Artillery:

MAJOR: The brigadier-general commanding directs that the 600 men who have volunteered from your command under General Orders, No.

22, from headquarters Tenth Army Corps, be in readiness to move at 7.30 a. m. to-morrow, August 9, with three days' rations in their haversacks and with their shelter-tents. The men will be fully armed and equipped. Lieutenant Sawyer, aide-de-camp, will report at your headquarters at the hour above named for the purpose of conducting the detail to the Crow's Nest, where they will report to Major Ludlow, of General Butler's staff.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., August 8, 1864.

Brigadier-General AMES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to call your attention to the fact that two deserters came into our lines last evening, arriving on or near the picket-line Second Division, just before our pickets were posted. They state that they remained concealed within twenty-five yards of our rifle-pits awaiting the arrival of our pickets, and were not challenged till within ten paces of them, owing to the thick corn and our pickets arriving on the line late. This should not be allowed to occur again. Please have the picket officer instructed to post their outer line as soon as it can be done under cover of darkness, and before and while it is being done the men in the trenches will be kept on the alert. Direct the brigades successively on duty in the front lines to enlarge the trenches so that men can act freely. For that purpose have them supplied with picks and shovels. The abatis in front of the Second Division should at once be strengthened. For this purpose make a detail of 100 men from those not on duty to cut and transport the abatis, so that to-night it can be placed in position.

By command of Major-General Ord:

GEO. W. KELLEY,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIGADE, SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
Picket-Post, August 8, 1864—evening.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: I have the honor to report that this brigade relieved the First Brigade of Second Division, Cavalry Corps, commanded by Colonel Stedman, of the Sixth Ohio Cavalry, and that there has been no changes made in the line. All quiet on the line.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

M. KERWIN,
Colonel, Comdg. Second Brigade, Second Cavalry Division.

CITY POINT, *August 9, 1864—11.45 a. m.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Five minutes ago an ordnance boat exploded, carrying lumber, grape, canister, and all kinds of shot over this point. Every part of the yard used as my headquarters is filled with splinters and fragments of shell.

I do not know yet what the casualties are beyond my own headquarters. Colonel Babcock is slightly wounded in hand and 1 mounted orderly is killed and 2 or 3 wounded and several horses killed. The damage at the wharf must be considerable both in life and property. As soon as the smoke clears away I will ascertain and telegraph you.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 9, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Capt. E. S. PARKER,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Lieutenant-General Grant, City Point:

Please direct Col. C. P. Stone, Fourteenth U. S. Infantry, to report at the expiration of his leave to Maj. Gen. G. K. Warren, commanding Fifth Army Corps.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 9, 1864.*

Admiral S. P. LEE:

Your letter of the 24th instant [ultimo],* inclosing communication relative to the withdrawal of iron-clads from the James River, was duly received. Owing to my absence from here most of the time since the receipt of your letter, it has not been answered earlier. Whilst I believe we will never require iron-clad vessels to meet those of the enemy, I think it would be imprudent to withdraw them. At least two such vessels, in my judgment, should be kept in the upper James. They stand a constant threat to the enemy and prevent him taking the offensive. There is no disguising the fact that if the enemy should take the offensive on the water, although we probably would destroy his whole James River navy, such damage would be done our shipping and stores, all accumulated on the water near where the conflict would begin, that our victory would be dearly bought.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 9, 1864—11.50 a. m.

Brigadier-General INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster Armies in the Field, City Point:

Was that explosion at City Point? What was it?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, *August 9, 1864.*

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A barge laden with ordnance stores was accidentally blown up just now while lying at the wharf. There has been considerable destruc-

*See Vol. XL, Part III, p. 427.

tion of property and loss of life. No officers were killed. The shock was terrific, and of course unlooked for. It is probable we shall never know how the accident occurred. One of your office wagon horses was killed. We are clearing away the ruins at the river.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 9, 1864.

Maj. J. C. DUANE,
Acting Chief Engineer:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs that you take the necessary measures to provide, with as little delay as practicable, a sufficient supply of intrenching tools for the use of the fatigue parties detailed for work on the intrenchments. The commanding general decides that the intrenching tools now ordered to be kept on hand at corps headquarters are not, as a general rule, to be used for this purpose.

I am, your very obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 9, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point, Va.:

Five prisoners of war just sent in by Fifth Corps are from Colquitt's and Clingman's brigades. They state that Clingman was relieved in the trenches by Ransom's brigade at 10 o'clock this morning. That Mahone's, Colquitt's, and Clingman's brigades made a charge on left flank of Fifth Corps at 3 o'clock this p. m. When informants left they had driven in our skirmish line and were still advancing. They know of no troops coming from north of Appomattox. They state that they saw D. H. Hill this morning and think he is on Beauregard's staff.

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
August 9, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from the First Confederate Battalion has just been received. He came into our lines about dark last night. He is from Davis' brigade, Heth's division, Hill's corps; reports no change in the enemy's position; states that there are only four divisions of the enemy south of the Appomattox, viz: Heth's, Mahone's, Hoke's and Bushrod Johnson's, which are posted as reported yesterday; has no further information. Saw yesterday's Richmond papers; they admit the passage of the forts in Mobile harbor by Farragut's fleet, and the sinking of three of their vessels.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

AUGUST 9, 1864—4 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Two deserters to-day—one from First Confederate Battalion, Davis' brigade, Heth's division, and one from Tenth Florida, Mahone's division. They confirm the information concerning position that I sent you yesterday. Nothing else important.

J. C. BABCOCK.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 9, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 8 a. m. a fatigue party of forty-seven men entered the new work in rear of second line and Gregory's house, but battery on our right threw a few shells in and dispersed them; have not yet returned. At 9 a. m. fatigue parties of fifteen, twenty, and twenty-five each marched in direction of Petersburg, entering woods in rear of new work. They continue to work on front line left of Gregory's house. No change of camps.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 9, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

All quiet. Enemy are throwing up a new line of works in rear of the three-gun fort. No other change.

WARTS,
Lieutenant.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 9, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

No change or movement this p. m. Five of enemy's officers engaged laying out and staking off ground for a new work about 500 yards to right of Chimneys and in rear of first line of works.

Respectfully,

WARTS,
Lieutenant.

AUGUST 9, 1864—3.15 p. m.

Major FISHER:

The following rebel messages read:

Colonel B[RENT],
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No movement of enemy observed this a. m. except their usual drills. They appear to be negro troops. The explosion seems to be near Blockfield, on the Appomattox. I think it was an ammunition boat.

1.30 p. m.

Colonel B[RENT],
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Colonel Cabell and Major Hamilton wish me to state that the explosion was greater than that of McClellan's ammunition train, near Savage Station, York River Railroad, and they think its locality was on James River, near City Point.

O. at 114.

T. H. FEAREY,
Second Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 9, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

A train of fifteen wagons moved to our left this a. m. on line of Weldon railroad. No working party observed on fort near Weldon railroad west from station. No movements of troops or change of camps visible.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 9, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: No movements of the enemy to report. They are busily engaged in constructing works in the rear of their mock line along the edge of the woods. They seemed to be staking off a new work during the day 400 or 500 yards to our right of the Gregory Chimneys. They did not work upon the fort west of the Weldon railroad to-day. A train of fifteen wagons passed toward Petersburg this a. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 9, 1864—12.20 p. m.

The explosion that took place about an hour ago was an ordnance boat at City Point, sending shell and splinters all over the Point, doing material damage to life and property. At General Grant's headquarters, Colonel Babcock was wounded in the hand, 1 orderly killed, and 3 or 4 wounded. The loss of life and property not yet ascertained.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(To corps commanders.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 9, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in my front during the night. A large fire was discovered at or in front of the enemy's line about 9.30 p. m. Enemy were working hard to extinguish it.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 9, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The explosion which has just taken place is north 35 degrees east from here.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 9, 1864—9 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that everything has been quiet in my front to-day. A detail of 400 men are at work to-night on Battery Tilton.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 9, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report the usual state of affairs on my line. The ordinary amount of picket-firing and mortar shelling last night.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 9, 1864—9 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report the usual state of affairs on my front during the past twelve hours. To-night there is the ordinary amount of picket-firing.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 9, 1864—8 a. m.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that everything has been quiet along my line during the past twelve hours. The Thirty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers were engaged yesterday evening in digging a covered way in rear of the front line and in rear of the battery, which is very beneficial for the troops occupying the front line.

I remain, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. WHITE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 9, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

SIR: I have the honor to report that no changes have occurred on my front during the last twelve hours. The enemy have manifested unusual activity throughout the day. Roemer's battery has troubled them somewhat.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 9, 1864—5.40 p. m.

Hon. G. V. FOX,
Assistant Secretary of the Navy:

The following is from the Richmond Examiner of the 9th:

A dispatch from Mobile, dated August 7, two days later than our previous advices, states that the situation had not materially changed since the enemy's victory over our iron-clads on last Friday. The Navy Department received a telegram yesterday morning announcing that the Morgan, the only gun-boat of our fleet which was not either sunk, beached, or captured, has succeeded in getting over the bar and reaching Mobile.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

(Copy to U. S. Grant.)

SPRING HILL, *August 9, 1864—7.30 a. m.*

Captain NORTON:

Seven cars, partly loaded with troops, just passed the Junction toward Petersburg.

SIMONS,
Lieutenant, Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 217. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C.,
In the Field, Va., August 9, 1864.

* * * * * * *

VIII. In accordance with orders from Lieutenant-General Grant, the First Regiment, U. S. Volunteers, will at once proceed to Milwaukee, Wis., reporting on their arrival to Maj. Gen. John Pope, commanding Department of the Northwest. They will proceed via New York. Quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

* * * * * * *

XIII. Colonel Garrard, commanding First U. S. Colored Cavalry, will at once send four companies of his regiment, under the senior major, to report to Brig. Gen. I. Vodges for provost duty at Norfolk.

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 97. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, August 9, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. The Ninth U. S. Colored Troops are hereby temporarily attached to the Second Division and will report to Brig. Gen. J. W. Turner, commanding.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Hatcher's, Va., August 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN W. TURNER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you send your smallest regiment to report at Crow's Nest, on the James River, to Major Ludlow, of General Butler's staff, at 2 p. m. to-day, for guard duty. The men will take their tents with them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 10, 1864—5 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The following just received from General Crawford, and is forwarded for your information:

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 10, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Private F. M. Crenshaw, Ninth Alabama, came into the lines of the Second Brigade yesterday morning, and says that the sappers and miners have been sought out in the different regiments of Mahone's division to work at mining; that a man of his company who has been employed recently at mining would not tell him the locality of the mine or anything concerning it, for the reason that he was bound to secrecy; that a citizen from Orange Court-House, where his regiment was quartered last winter, came down a week ago to see some acquaintances in the regiment and reported that Kershaw's division, of Longstreet's corps, had passed there en route for the valley.

I am, &c.,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 10, 1864—6 a. m.

General MEADE:

The telegraph line near Swan Point has been cut by a party of the enemy. I have sent 150 infantry down to Fort Powhatan to drive them away, but Colonel Innis, in command of the fort, reports them in too

great force. Will you, therefore, order Kautz to send a regiment of cavalry or more to aid the gun-boat force at Powhatan in driving these fellows away.

Respectfully,

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Shall I direct Gregg to send, say, 500 cavalry to do this? Swan Point is twenty miles below Powhatan.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 10, 1864—8 a. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

Orders in compliance with your wishes have been sent to General Kautz.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 10, 1864—12 m.*

Maj. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

I will ship the transportation of the Sixth Corps and Cavalry Corps forward as rapidly as possible. I saw the necessity for it some days ago. General Grant thinks it will not be necessary to ship all of it, and he directs me to hold the transports here that may arrive hereafter. I have ordered Continental to Fort Monroe. She draws too much water for this place and Washington. Please cause your orders to be given to her through Colonel Biggs. One hundred and sixty-eight wagons of the Sixth and 179 of the Cavalry have been shipped. We are shipping to-day as fast as means permit.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

CITY POINT, *August 10, 1864.*
(Received 12 m.)

General S. WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: There were 33 men killed and 75 wounded yesterday by the explosion of ordnance on the barge. The store-house and wharf were greatly damaged, but can be repaired in a short time. There was but slight loss of subsistence and quartermaster's property. I have heard of no report of the ordnance department as to cause of explosion or loss of property.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF PROVOST-MARSHAL,
In the Field, August 10, 1864—7.40 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
Deputy Provost-Marshal-General, City Point:

I have received but one deserter thus far to-day. He was from Terry's brigade, of Pickett's division. Pickett's division, with Thomas' and Scales' brigades, remains as heretofore. This man knew nothing about Kershaw's division, whether they were in his rear or not. Richmond papers of to-day announce the capture by our forces and occupancy of Fort Gaines, Mobile Harbor. Another of the forts was blown up by the rebels to prevent its falling into our hands. Nothing to-day from north side of the James.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieut., Acting Aide-de-Camp, and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

AUGUST 10, 1864—9 a. m.

Captain FISHER:

Parties of enemy at work at various points of old line. A new work is being built in open field to right and rear of Gregory's house.

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 10, 1864—9 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Enemy shows some activity in working on fortifications. No movement visible.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

STATION OF OBSERVATION,
August 10, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

A large column of smoke rising up about the location of Port Walthall Junction; woods on fire in front of Ninth Corps. Steam, as though from an engine, rising in the lower part of the city about the locality of the Lynchburg depot.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain and Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 10, 1864—7.20 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

A new work commenced 23 degrees west of north by edge of woods. Strong fatigue parties in front line of works northwest of station working in considerable force along our whole front. Camps unchanged.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
City Point, Va., August 10, 1864.

Lieut. S. SERGEANT,
Commanding Detachment:

LIEUTENANT: In compliance with the orders of Lieutenant-General Grant, you will immediately take up your bridge at Broadway Landing, on the Appomattox, and bring it to this place, anchoring it alongside the raft now here. A tug will be sent up to be at Broadway Landing at 5 p. m. to tow you down.

By order of Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 10, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance transpired in my front during the night.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 10, 1864—9 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred in my front to-day. Four hundred men are at work to-night at Battery Tilton.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 10, 1864—8 a. m.

Lieut. Col. L. RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that everything has been quiet along my line for the past twelve hours. The commanding officer of the Fourteenth New York Heavy Artillery reports that he thinks the rebels are mining under his regiment. This will be investigated at once.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. WHITE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JULIUS WHITE,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires me to reply to your communication of this date relative to the shortening of the lines held by

the First Division, that it is at present impossible to make any change. He also directs me to say that he approves of the suggestion received this afternoon that in repairing the fort on your front it should be so altered as to have a flank fire.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, August 10, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

SIR: I have the honor to report that no changes have occurred on my front during the last twelve hours. The officer of the day reports that heavy details of the enemy have been at work during the night. The gallery for the countermine is progressing, but has been somewhat delayed for want of lumber, which will be up this morning.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 10, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

SIR: I have the honor to report no changes in my front during the day. The rebels have been very busy with the spade on the hill on our front and left.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 10, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The telegraph line near Swan Point has been cut by the enemy. General Butler sent 150 infantry by water to Fort Powhatan to drive them off, but the force proved insufficient, and he requests that General Kautz be ordered to send a regiment or more to aid the gun-boat force at Powhatan. The major-general commanding directs that you direct General Kautz to send not less than a regiment of his cavalry to aid in breaking up this party of the enemy. There is a gun-boat at Fort Powhatan.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 10, 1864—6.10 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The following has just been read by our signal officer and is forwarded for your information. It evidently refers to some attack upon our working party at Dutch Gap. I have informed General Birney and will inform Captain Smith. Have you any orders? We will endeavor to be ready.

Respectfully,

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

AUGUST 10, 1864.

Captain NORTON:

The following message just signaled from rebel station on Signal Hill to Howlett's:

General R. E. LEE,
Howlett's House:

Yours of 10 a. m. received at Signal Hill. ——— engaged in locating artillery at Signal Hill and ———. Commodore Mitchell was here with me and proposes to drop down near Howlett's and open at the same time with Carter. Can the battery at Howlett's open at the same time? Apparently, it has better command than we have. The navy would prefer to take position at night. Carter will have to intrench, as the enemy's boats and batteries cover his ground. The scouts report but a regiment, probably to prevent firing into their boats. As the approaches are low and open an infantry attack is not advisable, at least during the day.

R. S. EWELL,
Lieutenant-General.

G. S. DANA,
Captain, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 10, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

The navy ought to be apprised of the dispatch taken from the rebel signal, and to station a part of their boats as to command the ground around our troops at Dutch Gap. If the enemy open from Howlett's, reply from our water batteries on it. Are our men well covered from artillery fire? If so, and they are on the alert, an attack ought to prove disastrous to the rebels.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 10, 1864—8.10 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding, &c., City Point:

We are preparing to meet the rebels if they choose to attack us. I think our men are under cover. The navy have been notified to be ready on their part. A rebel deserter this afternoon reports a rumor in their camp that their cavalry have been knocked to pieces, with a

loss of four guns, up in the Shenandoah Valley. Have you any news upon that subject? He also reports that last Saturday right smart of the cavalry which was in the rear of their line, I presume a brigade, between the James and Appomattox, left for the Shenandoah.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 10, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Who has immediate command of the troops at Dutch Gap? It will require some one there who cannot be stampeded.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 10, 1864—8.50 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *City Point:*

That command is in immediate charge of Major Ludlow, of my staff, a gentleman of experience, who will not be stampeded. He is now here. I have explained to him all the circumstances, and we shall not leave. I have been able since I sent to you to decipher the enemy's signals.* Put in where the first break is, "Colonel Carter is," and where the second is, "Cox's overseer's house," which place you will find on the map, and it will read as follows: "Colonel Carter is here engaged in locating artillery at Signal Hill and Cox's overseer's house."

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 10, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major LUDLOW:

By reading the enemy's signals, a copy* of which I send you, it will be seen that the enemy intend an attack upon you, probably to-morrow morning at daylight. As you will see, not an infantry attack, although you had better be ready for that. As soon as they open we shall open on them. Let the navy dispose of themselves, getting all the guns they can to bear, to cover your front and to drive off the iron-clads. Let the men understand it, so that they need not be taken by surprise and get themselves cover during the night as much as possible. Send by Clarke for anything you need.

Yours,

BUTLER.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 10, 1864—11.50 a. m.

Captain NORTON:

There is considerable activity shown by the rebel rams to-day. One moved down to Cox's Ferry and returned.

G. S. DANA,
Captain, Signal Corps.

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* See Ewell to Lee, p. 106.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 10, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that communication is now open by signals between Water Battery and working party at Dutch Gap.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 10, 1864. (Received 1.30 p. m.)

Colonel ABBOT:

General Butler desires that you send to Dutch Gap one 100-pounder, with carriage, implements, and 100 rounds of ammunition. Battery for it will be ready to-night.

A. MORDECAI,
Captain, &c.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *August 10, 1864—2 p. m.*

Captain MORDECAI,
Headquarters General Butler:

Captain Hart told Captain Hatfield yesterday that the 100-pounder gun had no platform. Have you made any arrangement relative to it? It should be laid and the magazine started at once. The carriage is for a front pintle; it and the chassis are at Bermuda, but no platform.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 10, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT,
First Connecticut Heavy Artillery:

All the siege material has been turned over to Captain Hatfield, and all arrangements will therefore have to be made by you. I can make none.

A. MORDECAI,
Captain.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 10, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY:

The general directs that you send the regiment of the 100-days' men on the front of the line which has the longest time to serve, to relieve the regiment now at Fort Powhatan as soon as possible. Transportation will be ready at Bermuda.

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 10, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you send over to Dutch Gap a 3-inch rifle and a light 12-pounder Napoleon at once. You will send the men and an officer without horses to report to Major Ludlow.

Respectfully,

H. C. CLARKE,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

Order Captain Follett to send these guns with horses and proper number of men with three days' rations. Horses can be returned to camp to report at Crow's Nest.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 10, 1864—6.30 p. m.

General BIRNEY:

You will see that the following dispatch* is evidence that enemy propose an attack upon our party at Dutch Gap. Will you take measures to meet it? I think it will begin early in the morning, as the rams are to come down during the night. Perhaps you had better see Captain Smith about it. Please send this to him at once, with such remarks as you think proper.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 10, 1864—9.10 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

I have deciphered the dispatch.* It will read as follows:

General ROBERT E. LEE,
Howlett's House:

Yours of 10 a. m. received at Signal Hill. Colonel Carter is here engaged in locating artillery at Signal Hill and Cox's overseer's house.

You will find both places on the map. Signal Hill is near Cox's house and Cox's overseer's house is about one mile and a half from our position, directly up the road from the gap. Please explain where it is to Captain Smith. Send over an aide to him.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

AUGUST 10, 1864—6.45 p. m.

General BIRNEY:

In case the enemy open, as they probably will do to-morrow morning, I would advise that all the guns at the Water Battery and the gun at Crow's Nest open upon the Howlett house; that the two mortars, with fuses too long to explode before the shell strikes, and try for the rams, if they come down. If the 100-pounder at the Crow's Nest can

* See Ewell to Lee, p. 106.

bear on the iron-clads let her try it. The mortar in Battery Wilcox [had] better bear upon Howlett's house. Perhaps the gun at Battery Parsons can reach the iron-clads. A reserve light battery, if thrown forward on the bank of the river below the Crow's Nest, would sweep Dutch Gap from any land attack by infantry, but you can best judge of this by being on the spot.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 98. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, August 10, 1864.

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5. The One hundred and thirtieth Ohio National Guard will proceed without delay to Fort Powhatan, relieving the One hundred and thirty-third Ohio National Guard, now on duty there. Transportation will be furnished at Bermuda Landing. The One hundred and thirty-third Ohio National Guard, upon being relieved, will proceed upon the same transport to Washington, D. C.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you have your command under arms at daybreak to-morrow morning and man the parapet.

Respectfully, &c.,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

Col. F. B. Pond, Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, commanding First Brigade, is charged with the execution of this order as far as it relates to his command.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Hatcher's, Va., August 10, 1864—11 p. m.

Colonel CURTIS,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you have your command under arms at daybreak to-morrow morning and man the parapet. Lieutenant-Colonel Coan's right will rest on Battery No. 4; your right will rest on his left.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Captain, Forty-seventh New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 10, 1864—10.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General MARSTON,
Fort Pocahontas:

I desired Colonel Innis to co-operate with General Graham in a movement upon the enemy near Cabin Point and to pursue them down to Swan Point. Graham landed at daybreak. You stopped the march of Colonel Innis until 10.45 by saying, "Don't move until I come. I will be there in an hour." Do you not get up to make movements until 10.45? It is a little later in the morning than I am accustomed to see my officers move. Please explain.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

FORT POWHATAN, *August 10, 1864.*
(Received 6.40 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

Landed 140 men under Major Von Schilling and my aide, Lieutenant Benson, and marched one mile beyond Cabin Point and returned without meeting with any opposition.

CHAS. K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, *August 11, 1864.*

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I think it but a just reward for services already rendered that General Sherman be now appointed a major-general, W. S. Hancock and Sheridan brigadiers in the Regular Army. There are three vacancies for major-generals and one for brigadier-general and Sherman's promotion would make the second. All these officers have proven their worthiness for this advancement. I would also recommend the promotion of Brigadier-General Mower to fill the vacant volunteer major-generalship that would thus be created.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] WASHINGTON, *August 11, 1864.*

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point:

GENERAL: Some forty-odd regiments of Ohio 100-days' men are to be mustered out before the end of the month. The term of service of a number of regiments from Indiana and other States expires this month and the early part of next. To meet this loss of troops there is scarcely nothing coming in under the President's call and I fear you will be obliged to send troops from the field to guard certain places, as West Virginia, the prison camps, &c., which cannot be left without garrisons. There is another very serious matter for which we must be prepared. Pretty strong evidence is accumulating that there is a combination formed or forming to make a forcible resistance to the draft in New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Kentucky, and perhaps some other States. The draft must be enforced, for otherwise the army cannot be

kept up. But to enforce it may require the withdrawal of a very considerable [number] of troops from the field. This possible, and I think very probable, exigency must be provided for. I call your attention to it now in order that you may be prepared for it and make your arrangements accordingly. I have not been a believer in most of the plots, secret societies, &c., of which we have so many pretended discoveries; but the people in many parts of the North and West now talk openly and boldly of resisting the draft, and it is believed that the leaders of the peace branch of the Democratic party are doing all in their power to bring about this result. The evidence of this has increased very much within the last few days. It is probably thought that such a thing will have an effect upon the next election, by showing the inability of the present Administration to carry on the war with an armed opposition in the loyal States. Whatever the object, it is thought the attempt will be made. Are not the appearances such that we ought to take in sail and prepare the ship for a storm?

Yours, truly,

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 11, 1864.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

The following is a list of casualties from the explosion of the ammunition barge on the 9th instant: Killed—12 enlisted men, 2 citizen employés, 1 citizen not employed by Government, 28 colored laborers; wounded—3 commissioned officers, 4 enlisted men, 15 citizen employés, 86 colored laborers. Besides these there were 18 others wounded, soldiers and citizens not belonging about the wharf. The damage to property was large, but I have not the means of reporting it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *August 11, 1864.*
(Received 10.20 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

We have deserters daily from both Hill's and Longstreet's corps fixing a portion of them at least in our front. There is evidence, however, of some troops having gone north in the last few days. It is not impossible that there may be two divisions, one from each of these corps, now on the way north. Please notify Sheridan of this. Two regiments from Foster's department have arrived here. I have heard of none others.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 11, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

The following forwarded for your information.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
August 11, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Two deserters from the enemy have just been forwarded—one from the Tenth Florida, Finegan's brigade, Mahone's division, Hill's corps; the other from the First Confederate Battalion, Davis' brigade, Heth's division, Hill's corps. As far as their knowledge extends there has been no change in the position of the enemy's four divisions now on the south side of the Appomattox in the last three or four days. Richmond papers of yesterday had official reports of the evacuation of Fort Powell, in Mobile Harbor, which was blown up by the enemy before falling into our hands. They have no other information of any importance.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 11, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The following report has just been received from the signal station near headquarters Eighteenth Corps:

A heavy dust seen extending from a point due south of this station along woods in rear of city for about three-quarters of a mile. Column does not uncover at any point; has been passing a given point for fifty-five minutes; many foot soldiers straggling on road running parallel and moving to right. If I can catch sight of column, I will report its nature.

JORDAN,
Sergeant.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

By order:

WM. S. STRYKER,
First Lieutenant and Adjutant Signal Corps.

(Forwarded to General Grant by General Meade.)

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 11, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The following dispatch is respectfully forwarded:

JORDAN HOUSE STATION.

There has been a movement of cavalry this p. m. with twenty-five wagons and ambulances. They came out of Petersburg in direction of Richmond. It is impossible to tell the number, as they were not well closed up, but think about two small regiments.

CLARK,
Signal Officer.

The station at the Walthall house reports the same movement.

Very respectfully,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

Respectfully forwarded to Lieutenant-General Grant.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 11, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

Has any discovery been made of the points where the enemy seem to be mining? If it can be ascertained nearly where they are running their mines I think it would be well to let them run on without countermining, in hopes of having them attack us, being careful, however, to have at such places a second line in which to keep our men and to establish batteries to sweep any breach that might be made by their explosion.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 11, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I am not aware that the enemy's mining operations are positively known at any point. Major-General Warren, some time ago, thought he had detected evidences of their mining on his front, but he subsequently concluded he was mistaken. The arrangements referred to by you of a second line, &c., were at that time made by him.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 11, 1864—6 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Respectfully forwarded to Lieutenant-General Grant.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 11, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following deserters have just been forwarded from the headquarters of the Fifth Army Corps, all from Mahone's division of A. P. Hill's corps: Private Crenshaw, Ninth Alabama, Sanders' brigade, came in 9th instant, 12 m. Private Fife, Ninth Alabama, Sanders' brigade, came in 9th instant, 9.30 p. m. Private King, Ninth Alabama, Sanders' brigade, came in 9th instant, 9.30 p. m. Private Hammond, Sixty-fourth Georgia, Wright's brigade, came in 10th instant, 5 a. m. Private Van, Sixty-fourth Georgia, Wright's brigade, came in 10th instant, 5 a. m. Private Wen, Sixty-first Virginia, Weisiger's brigade, came in 9th instant, 12 m. Private Clarke, Eleventh Alabama, Sanders' brigade, came in 10th instant, 3 a. m. Crenshaw states that he heard from a man belonging to his regiment, who had lately seen a man from Orange Court-House, that Kershaw's division, of Longstreet's corps, had passed through Orange Court-House on the way to the Valley. Cannot give the exact time; it was four or five days ago. Wen states that it is believed in camp that one division of Longstreet's

corps has gone to Hood's army and another to the Valley. He also states that a man from Wilcox's division, of Hill's corps, came from Chaffin's farm to his regiment a few days since, at which time Wilcox was between the Appomattox and James Rivers, in front of Major-General Butler. All of deserters corroborate previous information concerning the forces and their position on the south of the Appomattox, viz: Four divisions, posted from right to left as follows: Mahone, Heth, Hoke, and Bushrod Johnson. Mahone's division is located as follows: Wright's brigade, on extreme right, not in trenches; Weisiger's brigade, next in line; Sanders' brigade, next in line; Harris' brigade, next in line; Finegan's brigade, next in line, on extreme left of the division, and extending across the Jerusalem plank road. According to the statements of these deserters the strength of Weisiger's brigade has been reduced to 750 men; that of Sanders' brigade has been reduced to 800 men for duty. Great disposition to desert in Sanders' brigade.

NOTE.—From the right of the line we have information of Longstreet's corps to the following dates: Field's division near New Market, or Deep Bottom, August 8; Kershaw's division in General Butler's front, in rear of Pickett's, August 7; Pickett's division in General Butler's front, August 7. The position of Wilcox's division, of A. P. Hill's corps, is uncertain. General Butler telegraphs, on the 4th instant, that "Wilcox's division, of Hill's corps, is reported as being between New Market and Chaffin's farm. This, however, needs confirmation."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 11, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

There is very strong evidence, aside from that brought in by deserters, that the enemy are sending troops north. I think one division each from Hill's and Longstreet's corps have gone. Is our line now in position to be held by two corps?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

Referred to Major Duane, chief engineer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 11, 1864—11 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Reply to telegram of 7.30 delayed to get report of engineer officer. Engineers report it will require three days to complete the redoubts and rifle-pits in the fronts occupied by the Ninth and Fifth Corps, and three days more to prepare all the abatis. This work can only be executed at night, it being under the enemy's fire; and owing to the extreme heat of the weather and other causes the work is not as rapidly executed as I expected. I have given orders to put on the maximum force and push it. I know nothing of the condition of the work on the Eighteenth Corps line.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 11, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Deserter to-day states that it was reported in camp that Kershaw's division passed through Orange Court-House for the Valley four or five days ago. Six deserters from Mahone's division to-day. No changes south of Appomattox.

J. C. B[ABCOCK].

CITY POINT, *August 11, 1864.*

Lieutenant DAVENPORT,
General Butler's Staff:

A negro who left Richmond Monday says that on Sunday morning Fitzhugh Lee's division of cavalry came through Richmond from toward Petersburg and passed out on the Brook turnpike; that they were more than an hour in passing, and the white folks said they were going to re-enforce Early. He also thinks that trains were sent up on the Central Railroad on Saturday and Sunday with infantry. What he knows about the infantry is very indistinct, but he states the story about the cavalry with many circumstantial facts.

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

AUGUST 11, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

A party of fifteen of enemy have just begun a new work 1,000 yards to left of Chimneys. Enemy still hauling logs to the front. A party of forty of the enemy left their first line and moved off toward Petersburg. They had knapsacks, haversacks, &c., but no muskets. No other change. All quiet.

Respectfully,

WARTS.

AUGUST 11, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

No change. Few of enemy were laboring on work about 500 yards to right of Chimneys, but our batteries have driven them away. Some of the timber that the enemy have been hauling to first line of works is now being used to brace up works.

WARTS,
Lieutenant.

(Same to Major Fisher.)

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 11, 1864—1 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 11.30 a. m. 1,000 cavalry moved to our right on line of Weldon railroad, and 150 horses (leading), followed by a train of 34 ambulances and 61 wagons, a few wagons loaded with grain in the sheaf.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

TREE STATION, *August 11, 1864—2 p. m.*

Major FISHER:

At 11.30 a. m. thirty-six wagons seen moving toward our right on road near lead-works. A force of cavalry have just passed on the Richmond and Petersburg road going toward Richmond. They were ten minutes passing and were followed by six wagons. Another company followed the wagons, taking four minutes to pass. There were two flags, both red. Wagons have been passing just beyond on same road for about twenty minutes, going toward Richmond. I counted thirteen before the cavalry came and thirty after they had passed.

T. H. FEAREY,
Second Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 11, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatches are respectfully forwarded:

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION.

At 2.30 p. m. a body of cavalry moved to our right on line of Weldon railroad, followed by a train of fourteen wagons, but owing to the smoke intervening, blown from the burning woods upon our left, a correct estimate as to the number of cavalry could not be made. They probably numbered 500; were ten minutes in passing. No other movement visible since last report. No change in camp visible.

FULTON.

WALTHALL HOUSE STATION.

Between 2 and 3 p. m. saw heavy dust extending from lead-works across the city; could not see what was moving, but from dust judged that the movement was toward our right. It lasted twenty minutes. A similar line of dust seen about 5 p. m. The movement in same direction. The enemy have been conveying long timber from the wood toward Fort Clifton. Enemy reports an increase of hospital tents near Point of Rocks.

FEAREY,
Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 11, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL. The following dispatches are respectfully forwarded:

JORDAN HOUSE STATION.

There has been a movement of cavalry this p. m. with twenty-five wagons and ambulances. They came out of Petersburg in direction of Richmond. It is impossible to tell the number, as they were not well closed up, but think about two small regiments.

CLARK,
Signal Officer.

The station at the Walthall house reports the same movement.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

STATION NEAR GIBBON'S HOUSE,
August 11, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

The dust reported at 12.10 this p. m. I think must have arisen from teams moving from enemy's left and disappearing in woods at point about southwest, or near Dinwiddie road. A signal station in rear of city at a point south-southwest plainly visible. Enemy yet busy on works northwest and west-northwest of this station. Fire in Petersburg between 3 and 4 this a. m.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND CORPS,
August 11, 1864.

Maj. JOHN HANCOCK,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Div., Second Corps:

MAJOR: I would respectfully inform you that I have this day turned over the command of the Second Brigade to Col. C. A. Craig, One hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers.

I am, major, respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. J. MADILL,
Colonel 141st Pennsylvania Volunteers, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 11, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual transpired in my front during the night.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 11, 1864—9 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual has transpired in my front to-day. Nine deserters from the enemy were received and forwarded to the provost-marshal-general. Four hundred men are at work to-night at Battery Tilton.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 11, 1864—9 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that nothing worthy of note has occurred on my front to-day. To-night the picket-firing is quite brisk.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FIRST DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 11, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report that during my tour of duty no movements were observed in the rebel line, but that they are reported to be strengthening their works opposite the Fourth Division. The traverses of the First Division front need improvement, which can be accomplished by the men in the trenches with little labor. The officer of the Second Division reports a new and strong work to the right of the blown-up fort and in the thick woods, and he also recommends drainage of the covered way near the railroad and deepening the approaches in a few points. No change was observed in the Third Division, and no recommendations are made. In the Fourth Division nothing unusual occurred. The policing of the Second and Third Divisions has been improved since my last tour of duty, but in rear of all the divisions the men are in the practice of using the unoccupied works as sinks, and in the Second Division, near one of the batteries, there is a sink which I have called attention to twice, and which is shamefully bad. All the ditches in rear of the works need to be widened.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GILBERT P. ROBINSON,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Second Brig., First Div., Ninth Army Corps.

[Indorsement.]

Directions have been given to make the improvements recommended in the above report.

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 11, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that there has been but slight firing on my front during the day. Brigade commanders report that the enemy is apparently repairing the fort blown up on the 30th ultimo. The men can be seen and heard at work. My lines are kept in good repair, and are strengthened wherever there appears need for additional defenses.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND MOUNTED RIFLES, NEW YORK VOLS.,
Near Petersburg, Va., August 11, 1864.

Brigadier-General POTTER,
Commanding Second Division, Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report as division officer of the day for the 10th instant that I find the trenches generally effective and

protective. With ordinary care the men defending them are protected from the fire of the enemy. The health of the men serving along and near the line of railroad require that a strong pioneer force be ordered to draw off the stagnant and putrid water by filling the ditch on the west side, which will force the water out, at the same time cover all sources of disease so abundant in that locality. Considerable policing was done yesterday, and the camps of the First and Second Brigades much improved, but two or three points along the sap by which the outer lines are approached need raising. With these trifling exceptions, the approaches are good and safe. I observe to the right of the fort of the enemy blown up on the 30th ultimo, and farther back in a thick woods, quite a large earth-work has been thrown up, the only recent change noticed in the enemy's works in front of this division.

I am, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN FISK,
Colonel Second Mounted Rifles, New York Vols.,
Division Officer of the Day, August 10, 1864.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
In the Field, August 11, 1864—6.05 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
Deputy Provost-Marshal-General, City Point:

Everything in our front here remains as heretofore. On the north side of James deserters report no changes. Nothing, I am confident, has left our entire front. I telegraphed you yesterday, but received no answer.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieut., Acting Aide-de-Camp, and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
In the Field, August 11, 1864—9.50 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
Deputy Provost-Marshal-General, City Point:

I have just received a deserter from Terry's brigade. He reports that a rumor exists in their camp that all of Longstreet's corps, save Pickett, have gone to Richmond, and thence north. A gentleman from Richmond, who was seen by a comrade of his last night, informed them that he had seen them in Richmond. The man knows nothing of any one in his rear, and says that he knows the cavalry all left. Kershaw's division was in their rear. I imagine, and indeed believe, that very likely they have gone as he says. No deserters from Field's to-day. He may have gone with them. It is believed in Pickett's division that they are about to march and to be relieved by Heth's division. There is strong circumstantial evidence to confirm this.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieut., Acting Aide-de-Camp, and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 11, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at Water Battery reports at 4.25 p. m. that "the enemy have thrown up works to the north and east of Cox's Mill to-day."

Very respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *August 11, 1864.*

Brigadier-General RAMSAY,
Chief of Ordnance, U. S. Army,
Winder's Building, Washington, D. C.:

I have sixteen Coehorns in position and could fire 1,000 rounds daily to advantage. My supply of this ammunition is nearly exhausted, although it has been economized to our serious detriment, the rebel mortar fire now exceeding our own. In response to my letter of 15th instant and telegram of 19th instant, I have only received about 1,700 rounds. If possible I urgently request a prompt filling of the requisitions for 20,000 rounds, with preparations for a further supply if called for.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery, Commanding Siege Train.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, August 11, 1864—5.25 a. m.

Colonel CURTIS,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: Your troops will not be kept under arms any longer, as the "emergency is passed." They will be returned to their camps.

By order of Brigadier-General Turner:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Captain, Forty-seventh New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Fort Pocahontas, Va., August 11, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

On the 9th of August, at 2.30 p. m., I received the following dispatch from Colonel Innis, commanding at Fort Powhatan:

A white nigger has just reported to me that there are three companies of cavalry within three miles of this fort; also a large infantry force on the Surry Court-House road. He says 3,000—I think the 400 or 500 I spoke to you about yesterday. I sent out thirty or forty cavalry to repair the telegraph line this a. m., but they were driven in. What shall I do?

At 3 p. m. I sent the following to Colonel Innis:

Keep a sharp lookout, but don't risk surprise or capture.

Deeming it important to destroy or capture the rebel force that was interrupting the telegraph at 3.45 p. m. I telegraphed to Captain Pit-

kin, at City Point, to send me a steamer that night, to enable me to cross the river with a part of my force at this post, to which I received no reply until between 7 and 8 o'clock on the morning of the 10th instant, when the steamer called for reported. My purpose was to send a section of my light battery and about 150 men to Fort Powhatan in the evening, and during the night to land about 250 men below Cabin Point, and endeavor to surprise the rebels at daylight this morning by a simultaneous movement of both detachments. At 9.30 a. m. August 10 I received the following dispatch from Colonel Innis:

We are about sending out all our available force. In case we are driven in can I depend upon you for assistance?

To which I replied:

Make no movement until I come; will be with you in an hour.

In less than one hour I was at Fort Powhatan, and then and there first learned that General Graham had sent a force down the river, and that Colonel Innis had been requested to co-operate with him. I immediately directed Colonel Innis to send out all the men he could possibly spare and sent back to Wilson's Landing for 375 men, 100 of whom I directed to remain at Fort Powhatan, and 275 I sent to re-enforce the detachment sent forward by Colonel Innis. A part of the force marched as far as Cabin Point and scouted the country about there, arrested several citizens who, with one exception, persisted that no more than six rebel soldiers had been seen recently in that neighborhood. From one party they learned that about seventy-five rebel cavalry had that morning gone off on the Blackwater road. They found the telegraph line down at several points but not broken. Between 8 and 9 o'clock the force returned to Fort Powhatan.

I inclose herewith a report of Lieutenant Swain, which accounts for the fact that no communication was received from Fort Powhatan on the night of the 9th instant. To your remark about not getting up to make movements until 10.45, I have no reply to make, feeling that the same was uncalled for and unjust.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GILMAN MARSTON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

[Inclosure.]

FORT POCAHONTAS, VA., *August 11, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. G. MARSTON,
Commanding Brigade:

GENERAL: In answer to your inquiries I have the honor to report that I was at the signal station at this post on the night of the 9th instant until fifteen minutes of 11 o'clock, and gave my men instructions to use extra caution on watch. My sergeant at Fort Powhatan states that he called this station from 11 to 12 o'clock that night. During the afternoon and just previous to sunset we could communicate by signals only at intervals, and I have reason to suppose that during the time this station was called the smoke in the atmosphere prevented their torch from being seen at this distance, nearly eight miles.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JULIUS M. SWAIN,
Second Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 11, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT.

A deserter came in this a. m.; reports that he heard a cook, who came to his regiment last night from the other side of Petersburg, say that he heard a man just from Richmond say that part of Lee's troops were going north through Richmond yesterday. As cars were running on the Richmond railroad during the night there may be something in the report.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers.

NORFOLK, *August 11, 1864.*

Colonel SHAFFER:

COLONEL: The order intended for Colonel Garrard's cavalry to relieve Colonel Dimon's regiment, First U. S. Volunteer Infantry, as provost-guard in this district, was inadvertently sent to these headquarters for transmission. Colonel Garrard's cavalry is not in this command. He has probably not received the order. No troops here to relieve Colonel Dimon. I shall be at the front Saturday.

G. F. SHEPLEY,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., August 11, 1864.

E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: The nature of the proposition I shall make in this communication must be the excuse I offer for sending direct to you. There is in the State of North Carolina, in proximity to our lines, quite a large supply of cotton which I am convinced can be procured for the Government if I can be permitted [to use] my own extraordinary means of obtaining it. This cotton has been inland for a long time, or a great deal of it hid away for the purpose of keeping it from the rebel Government or from raiding parties of our forces. The owners have in many instances expressed a perfect willingness to dispose of it to our Government, but the first attempt to get it from the hiding-places to points where I could receive it would be the cause of its being seized or destroyed by the rebels. The owners, too, in most cases, are men who have had the confidence of the former commander of Plymouth, and before the fall of that place promises of assistance to get the cotton within our lines were made. Now I would propose to obtain this cotton in this way: Whisky will draw cotton when nothing else will, and a trustworthy, honorable man here makes the proposition to place at points where I can easily send for it some hundreds of bales, at the rate of a bale of cotton for a barrel of whisky. Now a bale of cotton is worth to the Government at least $500 over and above the cost of transportation, and the common whisky is worth, or costs the Government here, say $50 to $60. It is probable that from 1,500 to 2,000 bales could be procured in this way, thus placing a large amount of money into the hands of the Government, and at the same time we put this cotton out of the way of the rebels. They will, I fear, sooner or later

get it if we do not. Then the whisky will do our enemies no good. It will do them more harm, and for my part I would not care how much they had, if we could get sinews of war in exchange for it. It is no use for us to send raiding parties for this cotton or to send agents to purchase it with our money; thus would we insure its destruction. As a matter of course the person who is to procure this cotton is worthy of his hire, and that he is willing to leave to you or to me if his proposition be accepted. It is my impression that the one-tenth of all cotton so procured ought to be a sufficient reward. I beg an early reply to this, and if the plan seems a good one I beg that the commissary of subsistence at New York be directed to send at once to the commissary department here 100 barrels of common whisky; 900 more if I direct a requisition for that amount to be made on him, and still another 900 if the venture should prove a success.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 12, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Send orders to Major-General Hancock to move his command as soon as practicable to City Point. His artillery and trains to be sent to-night, or at such time as not to be seen by the enemy, to the vicinity of the Point of Rocks bridge, cross the same and move over to some point in rear of the center of General Butler's line and out of sight of the enemy. Send orders to Gregg to make the necessary arrangements to relieve his division by Kautz's command to-night, Kautz to protect our left and rear and watch over to the James. Gregg, with his division, to move to-morrow to Point of Rocks, at such time as his movement will be concealed from the enemy, cross the bridge, and move to Deep Bottom and across the James, reporting to Hancock. Be particular in notifying all officers that the orders are confidential, and every effort must be made to conceal the destination of the several corps from their own troops as well as the enemy. The idea will be held out that the Ninth Corps is going to Washington.

[MEADE.]

JORDAN'S HOUSE, *August 12, 1864—1 p. m.*

Major FISHER:

A large wagon train moving west, apparently from Butler's front, has just passed open space about six miles northwest from this point. Enemy's signal officers report one regiment of cavalry crossing pontoon to Prince George side, also unusual number of gun-boats and steamers above pontoon.

T. R. CLARK,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 12, 1864.

Major FISHER:

A column of the enemy's cavalry, followed by thirty-eight wagons, has just passed a point on the Richmond turnpike north 40 degrees

west from here, going toward Richmond. The column occupied forty minutes in passing, independent of the wagons, and carried at least two battle-flags which were visible. The enemy's signal officers report considerable activity among our shipping off Point of Rocks and a regiment of cavalry crossing pontoon bridge to this side.

C. L. DAVIS,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 12, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The following just received from General Crawford is sent for your information. The man is on his way to your headquarters:

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 12, 1864.

GENERAL: Two men belonging to the artillery of the Second Corps deserted to the enemy last evening. A deserter named Frederick Schaunel, Company C, Eighth Alabama, Sanders' brigade, of Mahone's division, came into my lines this evening. He left Richmond on Sunday last, having been in the hospital there. He confirms the report I sent on the 8th in regard to Kershaw's division, of Longstreet's corps, having gone to the Valley. He saw Kershaw's old brigade of the division pass through Richmond on Sunday. He says also that more of that corps has gone north. He states also that Major Duncan, of Mahone's staff, said to the division surgeon (Wood) in his presence that Lee had certainly gone north. A man who had returned to the regiment yesterday says that an artillery train passed through Richmond on Tuesday going to Early, and that as he came down to Petersburg he saw wagon trains of cavalry going northward. This man repeats the story of a mine being constructed toward the fort on Griffin's front. He says that twenty men from each regiment are on daily detail to work at this mine and that the men from his regiment told him where they were at work.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 12, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Respectfully forwarded for Lieutenant General Grant's information.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 12, 1864—2 p. m.*
(Received 10.40 p. m.)

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL U. S. ARMY:

Think I have shipped means of transportation as follows: 239 teams of the Sixth Corps and 428 of the Cavalry Corps, making 667 wagons and teams completed. They are ordered to be reported to General D. H. Rucker. Please advise him that no more will be sent at present, and that those forwarded should retain their present organizations and should join the commands to which they appertain. When necessary

any number more of organized trains can be sent. I will now hold transports until it is decided about moving troops. Two or three divisions of rebel troops have lately left our front.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from Perry's brigade (now Finegan's), Eighth Florida Regiment, came into our lines about 7 o'clock last evening. They bring no important information. As far as they know the enemy's position remains unchanged. They report that the enemy are sinking shafts, either mining or countermining, at a point very near the Jerusalem plank road and on the part of the line occupied by Finegan's (Florida) brigade.

NOTE.—This was reported by one of Finegan's men yesterday, who had seen the shafts. One of them he said was about 150 yards from the Jerusalem plank road, and about sixty yards in rear of the trenches.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 12, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following telegram has just been received:

CITY POINT, *August 12, 1864.*

J. C. BABCOCK:

Deserters received to-day from Pickett's and Hoke's divisions and Scales' brigade all agree that the cavalry before reported and Kershaw's division are gone to Early. Nothing heard to-day of Field's division, but the probabilities are that he has gone.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
August 12, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from the Eighth Alabama, Sanders' brigade, Mahone's division, Hill's corps, came in this afternoon about 1.30 o'clock. He states that he left Richmond last Sunday morning (where he has been for the past two months in hospital) for Petersburg, at which time he saw Kershaw's old brigade marching from the Petersburg depot to the Virginia Central depot, on the way to Early, in the

Valley; that ne asked what brigade it was, and where they were going; that troops were marching through Richmond all night last Saturday night, and took the cars at the Central depot; understood that all of Kershaw's division was going to the Valley, and had passed through Richmond Saturday night and Sunday morning last; informant knows nothing of Field's division; thinks Kershaw's division is all that has gone; reports no change in the enemy's position on the south side of the Appomattox; it is generally understood that the enemy is mining in the direction of Fort Griffin; shafts are being sunk in Finegan's brigade; General Ewell is in command of the defenses of Richmond; there are no troops in the fortifications or about the city other than the home guards and city battalions; saw Richmond papers of to-day—they had no further news from Atlanta or Mobile.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

CITY POINT, *August 12, 1864.*

J. C. BABCOCK:

We have five refugees forwarded through our depot who left Richmond last night at 8 o'clock. During the night of Saturday and Sunday troops were marched through Richmond to the Central depot. Great care was taken to conceal the movement, and they were reported at one time as two divisions, and at another as two brigades. The cavalry was well known to be Fitzhugh Lee's. The artillery went through Sunday night and was counted at twenty pieces. Dispatch from Captain Leet says that our men report these troops to have passed through Gordonsville. Dispatch from Lieutenant Davenport during the night showing reason to believe that McLaws and Field have left.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 12, 1864—6.45 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Deserter from Eighth Alabama left Richmond hospital on Sunday morning last. Saw Kershaw's old brigade passing through the city to take the cars at Virginia Central Railroad depot. Troops passed through Richmond all night on Saturday last, and it was well understood that all of Kershaw's division took the Virginia Central Railroad between dark on Saturday and daylight on Sunday morning last. He knows nothing at all of Field's division.

J. C. B[ABCOCK].

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
In the Field, August 12, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
Deputy Provost-Marshal-General, City Point:

Three deserters from Pickett's division received this a. m. They report all the cavalry in their rear to have left on Saturday night and gone to the Valley. Kershaw's division has also left their rear and

gone to Richmond and thence on. They state that two other divisions went with Kershaw's, but whose they do not know. I have nothing as yet from the north side of the James. I fear Field has left there, but know nothing of it.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp, and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
In the Field, August 12, 1864—7 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
Deputy Provost-Marshal-General:

Deserters to-day from Hoke's and Pickett's divisions and Scales' brigade. No further news of interest. All insist that troops have left for the Valley. Some have it more and some less. None to-day from Field.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp, and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
In the Field, August 12, 1864—10 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
Deputy Provost-Marshal-General, City Point:

Two refugees, just in from Richmond, leaving there on Tuesday noon, say there was infantry went upon the cars to the Valley on Saturday night. Don't know what. On Sunday Fitzhugh Lee's cavalry, Stuart's light horse artillery, with some other battery, went through. The infantry was Kershaw beyond a doubt. I do not think Field has gone. Hope to ascertain to-morrow.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp, and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 12, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 7.15 a. m. a body of cavalry, numbering 1,100, moved to our right on line of Weldon railroad, followed by a train of twelve ambulances and forty-one wagons. Still working on front line, left of Gregory's house. No change in camps.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

SIGNAL STATION, PLANK ROAD,
August 12, 1864—7.15 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Thirteen wagons to our right and fifteen to our left this a. m., besides train with cavalry already reported. About 100 men, with arms and knapsacks, moved to our left in line of Weldon railroad at 5.30 p. m. Enemy hauling logs in considerable quantities in forts on our right and front. No change of camps.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following reports just received:

JORDAN HOUSE—9.45 a. m.

A column of cavalry has just passed Whitehead's going to our right marching by twos, and forty-five minutes in passing a point; were followed by six ambulances. Straggling cavalrymen are constantly passing to our right.

CLARK,
Captain.

NEAR HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS—9 a. m.

Enemy at work in small squads at different points of line.

LYON,
Lieutenant.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant.
By order:

WM. S. STRYKER,
First-Lieutenant, Adjutant Signal Corps.

AUGUST 12, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major FISHER:

An hour ago twenty-eight wagons passed toward city on the road to the left of lead-works. Enemy's signal officer reports a company of cavalry crossing pontoon bridge toward Bermuda Hundred.

C. L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

AUGUST 12, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major FISHER:

A column of enemy's cavalry, followed by thirty-eight wagons, has just passed a point on Richmond turnpike north 40 degrees west from here, going toward Richmond. The column occupied forty minutes in passing independent of the wagons, and carried at least two battle-flags which were visible. Enemy's signal officer reports considerable activity among our shipping off Point of Rocks, and a regiment of cavalry crossing pontoon bridge to this side.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

STATION NEAR GIBBON'S HOUSE,
August 12, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

An unusual amount of stir in enemy's wagon train visible to-day. One train of twenty-three wagons passed a point about three miles west of this station, moving on a road running to enemy's depot of supplies on Petersburg and Richmond Railroad; also, train of nine wagons on same road moving in opposite direction. No further movement

noticed on road reported this m. At 4 p. m. a body of cavalry, estimated at 350 men, passed a point about half a mile to right of Farley's house, moving south-southwest. A considerable dust seen occasionally nearly all day on roads south and west of city, and should think it indicated more than the usual travel on main roads. Since 4 p. m. dust and smoke have inclosed whole country round city.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch has just been received, and is respectfully forwarded for your information:

GIBBON'S HOUSE, *August 12, 1864.*
(Via Eighteenth Army Corps.)

Major FISHER:

A wagon train has been steadily passing a point southwest of this station for about sixty minutes. They move in a direction south-southwest. A heavy dust for about same time along line of Petersburg and Richmond Railroad, but covered from observation. About 300 troops moved at head of wagon train. Considerable dust south of city, but not steadily.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant Signal Corps, &c.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

By order:

WM. S. STRYKER,
First Lieutenant and Adjutant Signal Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 12, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have no further movement upon the part of the enemy during the day to report excepting that there seemed to be more than usual activity upon the various roads during the day. One of my lookouts reports that about 4 p. m. the atmosphere became too hazy to see movements, but a bank of dust seemed to rise in vicinity of city and extend across the river and on to the right. He thought it indicated a movement, but was not certain. I give it for what it is worth.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 268. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, August 12, 1864.

* * * * * * *

41. First Lieut. C. C. Chaffee, Ordnance Department, is hereby relieved from duty at Allegheny, Pa., and will report in person without

delay to the commanding general Army of the Potomac to relieve First. Lieut. M. Schaff, Ordnance Department, in his duties as depot ordnance officer, Army of the Potomac.

42. First Lieut. M. Schaff, Ordnance Department, on being relieved from duty in the Army of the Potomac, will repair at once to Reading, Pa., and relieve Capt. S. C. Lyford, Ordnance Department, in his duties as inspector of cannon and projectiles at that place.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 72. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., August 12, 1864.

I. Col. F. McGilvery, First Maine Light Artillery, is temporarily relieved from duty with the Army of the Potomac, and will report in person to Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina, for assignment as chief of artillery of the Tenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney, commanding.

* * * * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 12, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you move your command as soon as practicable to City Point. Your artillery and trains will be sent to-night, or at such times as not to be seen by the enemy, to the vicinity of the Point of Rocks bridge, cross the same, and move over to some point in rear of the center of General Butler's line and out of sight of the enemy. The movement of the artillery and trains must at all times be concealed from the enemy. General Gregg will be immediately directed to move to-morrow secretly to Deep Bottom and across the James, and report to you. The major-general commanding directs me to enjoin upon you that these orders are strictly confidential, and every arrangement and effort must be made to conceal the destination of the corps from the officers and troops, artillery and trains, and from the enemy. The idea will be held out that the Second Corps is going to Washington.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 12, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 11.15 a. m. just received. I will adjourn the court of inquiry at once, until such time as I may again assemble it, as it cannot proceed, I think; there will be but one member; I

should, however, like to have advice on that subject. I have a detail of 1,000 men at work; I should like to have them returned at once. I shall move my command as soon as it gets ready. I understand about the wagons and artillery.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

Your order is confidential, but it cannot be executed properly unless I send staff officers to Point of Rocks to select such places for trains and artillery as may meet the order, which will give them an idea.

W. S. H.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 12, 1864—12.45 p. m.
(Received 1 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding advises that you adjourn the court. Duane will be ordered to send back the detail at once. The commanding general considers that it would be better, in view of what you write, not to move the artillery and trains until night, and that the idea should be given that the artillery and trains embark at Bermuda Hundred to expedite the embarkation for Washington.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 12, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

By direction of the major-general commanding I transmit you herewith a copy* of Lieutenant-General Grant's letter to him of the 25th of July, which will form your instructions under the orders sent you this morning. The objects of your present expedition are identically the same as the former under the same instructions. It is ascertained that the enemy have re-enforced Early recently with three infantry divisions, Kershaw's and Field's, of Longstreet's corps, and Wilcox's, of Hill's corps, and Lee's division of cavalry, leaving only five divisions here. The commanding general directs that besides the rations and ammunition directed to be carried on the person you have six days' rations in trains and the ammunition required by recent orders.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 12, 1864.

The infantry command will be in readiness to move as soon as practicable. As soon as divisions are in readiness to move the commanders will report the fact at these headquarters. The artillery and trains

*See Vol. XL, Part III, p. 437.

will be in readiness, but probably will not move until some time after the infantry. The headquarters' spring-wagon, ambulances, medical, and other wagons usually allowed to move with the troops, will not move with the troops, but will be parked under the direction of Captain McEntee, assistant quartermaster, and will move under his direction. The general train will move under direction of Captain Shallenberger, assistant quartermaster. The details now absent on fatigue will be ordered to join their commands at once. The artillery and trains will not hitch up until so directed. If not already supplied, the troops will at once be supplied with rations of the required amount.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND CORPS,
August 12, 1864.

During the temporary absence of Maj. John G. Hazard, First Rhode Island Artillery, Capt. A. J. Clark, First New Jersey Artillery, senior officer, will assume command of the Artillery Brigade.

By command of Maj. John G. Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 12, 1864—9 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance occurred in my front last night. Heavy picket-firing in front of the command on my right was kept up all night. Early this morning the enemy opened some of his heavy guns. He fired both last night and this morning from the heavy battery near the plank road. Two deserters from Florida brigade were received and sent up this morning.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 12, 1864—9 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has transpired in my front during the day. Nineteen hundred and fifty men from this corps are at work to-night on the line.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 199. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 12, 1864.

* * * * * * *

6. The detachment of the First Michigan Cavalry, Lieut. William H. Wheeler commanding, on duty at these headquarters, having been

relieved by Captain Martin's company of the Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry, will, in compliance with paragraph 2 of Special Orders, No. 215, headquarters Army of the Potomac, proceed to join the First Cavalry Division, at Harper's Ferry.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 12, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing unusual occurred on my front during last night. Early this morning the enemy opened with some heavy guns, supposed to be 20-pounders, from their new battery on the right of the Fifth Corps, and fired a few times at Roemer's battery.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
August 12, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report the usual state of affairs on my line during the day. The enemy used a good deal of artillery about night-fall, apparently only for purposes of annoyance.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 12, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the firing on my front, both musketry and artillery, was more than usually heavy during the night. Nothing of importance occurred, however, and the occasion of this increased fire is not apparent.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 12, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

SIR: I have the honor to report no changes on my front the last twelve hours. The picket and artillery fire has been much heavier than usual. The enemy opened with heavy guns, supposed to be

20-pounders, from their new work in front of the right of the Fifth Corps. I should judge it was near the McKenzie house. They fired a few shots at Roemer's battery.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 12, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

SIR: I have the honor to report no changes in my front during the day. The enemy have been busy with the spade, and have used their artillery, in their new work in front of our extreme left.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 12, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The major-general commanding directs that you make the necessary arrangements to relieve your division to-night by Kautz's command, which will picket and patrol on our left and rear and watch over toward the James. You will move with your division to-morrow to Point of Rocks at such times as to conceal your movement from the enemy, cross the bridge and move to Deep Bottom and across the James, and report to Major-General Hancock. Your whole movement must be concealed from the enemy and secretly made. The major-general commanding particularly enjoins upon you every effort to conceal the destination of the command from the troops as well as from the enemy. If the movement of the Second Corps becomes known the idea will be held out that it is going to Washington. These orders are to be regarded as strictly confidential.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. 2D BRIG., 2D DIV., CAV. CORPS,
No. 60. } *August 12, 1864.*

Col. J. Irvin Gregg having been relieved from duty as division commander, Col. M. Kerwin, temporarily in command of the brigade during his absence, is hereby relieved and will report to his regiment.

* * * * * * *

By command of Col. J. Irvin Gregg, commanding brigade:

JNO. B. MAITLAND,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 12, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding, &c.:*

It having become evident that the enemy has sent north two if not three divisions of infantry, twenty-three pieces of artillery, and one division of cavalry, beside the dismounted cavalry, and a few regiments to Charleston, I am determined to see if we cannot force him to return here or give us an advantage. To do this I have given the same instructions as for the last move from Deep Bottom. There is this difference, however, in the preparation: The Second Corps, the only one out of line and foot loose, will march here this afternoon to embark in steamers. They will be under the impression, except the commander, that Washington is their destination. To facilitate embarkation (ostensibly) the artillery and transportation go to Bermuda Hundred to-night. After dark to-morrow night the pontoon bridge will be laid at the same place as on the former occasion. As soon as laid, or soon after 12 o'clock at night, the cavalry and artillery will commence crossing. The infantry, which will all be embarked here during the day on steamers, will start so as to reach Deep Bottom about 2 a. m. the 14th. I hope to have prompt movements and favorable results. What force can you spare from Bermuda Hundred to be used north of the James with this expedition? Whatever force you can spare, reducing the force to hold your line to a minimum, I wish you to have ready to follow the artillery and cavalry soon after daylight on the 14th.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 12, 1864—5.30 o'clock.

General GRANT:

Your note of instructions is received. Owing to the recent arrival of the South Carolina troops, I am unable to say just how many we can spare for the purpose, but I think 10,000 men for a week's operations, and perhaps more, if the Eighteenth holds its ground for the present. I will write you in detail and at length as soon as I can ascertain precisely.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 12, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding, &c.:*

Our intrenchments are now so strong that with a very thin line they can be held. We have the further security that the enemy has shown that he feels no inclination to attack fortifications. Under this view I have been thinking that with the colored troops alone, or at furthest with the colored troops and the white troops of the Tenth Corps, the Eighteenth Corps might be got foot loose to rest and fit up for other service, which I will make known to you. I think one infantry man to six feet the greatest abundance at Bermuda, and one to four feet sufficient for the line north of the Appomattox. As soon after the matter about which I advised you confidentially an hour ago is settled, I wish you would take this matter in hand.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 12, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

We have caught enough of a signal message to rebel rams to learn that they have a deserter. Message is as follows:

And that they are cutting a canal through. The explosion Tuesday, he says, was a gun-boat.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 12, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

What is the condition of affairs in front of General Foster? Can a force get out at that point or must it cross below?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 12, 1864—3.50 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

There is no physical difficulty in getting out on Foster's front as well as below; in either case you will meet about three brigades in light rifle-pits.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Have captured General Law's (Alabama) brigade assistant adjutant-general, who says when we took those guns before at Deep Bottom there were but 3,000 men on that side, and, I believe, even more the next day.

B. F. B.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 12, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The within just received in reply to my inquiry.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 12, 1864—1.15 p. m.

General BUTLER:

Two flag-of-truce boats of the enemy are at Cox's Wharf loaded with troops. No communication with them yet.

LUDLOW.

Those boats are communicating with Major Mulford at Aiken's.

B. F. BUTLER.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 12, 1864.

Captain NORTON:

Two rebel steamers near Dutch Gap with flag of truce.

G. S. DANA,
Captain, &c.

BERMUDA, *August 12, 1864.*

Colonel SHAFFER:

COLONEL: The U. S. steamer Varuna has just arrived with troops—Seventh U. S. Colored Troops, 750 men, 33 officers, Colonel Shaw commanding. General Birney and staff are on board. I have communicated your orders directing the officer in command of troops to report to Major-General Birney, Tenth Army Corps.

JOHN B. HOWARD,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 12, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports that at 12.30 p. m a heavy column of dust was seen to the rear of the railroad junction, advancing toward Richmond.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 12, 1864—5 p. m.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The following dispatch has just been received and is respectfully forwarded:

SPRING HILL SIGNAL STATION,
August 12, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

A train of twenty-two cars, heavily loaded with troops, just passed the Junction toward Richmond.

A. G. SIMONS,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 12, 1864—6.15 p. m.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The following dispatch has just been received and is respectfully forwarded:

SPRING HILL SIGNAL STATION,
August 12, 1864—6 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

A heavy column of dust is seen west and northwest of railroad junction, moving toward Richmond.

A. G. SIMONS,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 100. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, August 12, 1864.

* * * * * * *

5. The Ninth U. S. Colored Troops will report for duty to Brig. Gen. William Birney, U. S. Volunteers, and will form, with the other regiments under General Birney's command, a separate brigade.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Hatcher's, Va., August 12, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding First Division, Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you send the major of the Sixteenth New York Heavy Artillery to Dutch Gap, to report to Major Ludlow, of General Butler's staff, immediately.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., August 12, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Maj. T. J. Strong, commanding Sixteenth New York Heavy Artillery, who will report to Major Ludlow, as within ordered, immediately.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT POWHATAN, *August 12, 1864—9.45 a. m.*
(Received 11.15 a. m.)

Major DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have returned from Cabin Point this morning with my command—230 men. I was ordered by General Kautz, on 10th instant, to proceed to this point and operate with gun-boat force and assist in repairing telegraph. I sent a squadron to Swan Point and repaired the line five miles from Cabin Point. The wire has been cut by the enemy since our return. The colonel commanding post desires me to await instructions from commanding general. My men and horses are fatigued and the command is without rations or forage. The wire can be cut by a few scouts of the enemy at any time.

C. KLEINZ,
Lieut. Colonel, Commanding Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

CITY POINT, *August 13, 1864.*
(Received 4 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The Sixth and Tenth New York Heavy Artillery are ordered to Washington. General Augur made request for a particular regiment, giving, however, only the name of its colonel, Wheeler. No regiment commanded by Colonel Wheeler can be found here.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *August 13, 1864—9.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

I presume the regiment asked for by General Augur was the Second New York, Colonel Whistler. Boards are sent to examine hospitals as fast as we can get surgeons. In the meantime inspections are being made by local surgeons. The extreme heat has had a very bad effect upon the sick in hospitals. All troops under General Pope, not actually in the Indian campaign, were ordered to General Sherman, and special inspection made of his department. A new demand for troops to-day from Indiana, and fears expressed of an attempt to release the prisoners of war.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—8 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Will you give the necessary orders about the bridges at Deep Bottom? I have directed Hancock to confer with you fully on the proposed plan of operations.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 13, 1864.*

General MEADE:

I have given all the orders for bridges, &c. Hancock will be re-enforced by 9,000 men from Butler.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *August 13, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Send a regiment of heavy artillery to this place to embark for Washington, and let me know the name and number of the regiment as soon as possible.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The Sixth New York Heavy Artillery, Colonel Kitching commanding, will be at once sent to City Point, in compliance with your telegram, just received.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 13, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

If the enemy are reduced as much in numbers as we have reason to believe they are, Hancock's movements to-morrow may lead to almost the entire abandonment of Petersburg. Have this watched as closely as you can, and if you find this view realized, take such advantage of it as you deem best. Either move to the left with such troops as you can take from the Ninth and the Fifth Corps, leaving but a very thin line, or draw out the Fifth Corps entire to move with according to your judgment. I shall go to Deep Bottom early in the morning.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 13, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from the Tenth Virginia Cavalry, Chambliss' brigade, who came in to-day, report that their brigade camp is about three miles from Reams' Station, on the other side of the railroad, at the junction of the Reams' Station and Petersburg with the Dinwiddie Court-House road. Their brigade is doing picket duty at the Warwick bridge on the Jerusalem plank road. They have one regiment on duty at that bridge at a time; they relieve every forty-eight hours. There is another

brigade of cavalry, they did not know whose, doing duty on a line running from Warwick bridge in a northwesterly direction up to Gurley's house. Fitz Lee's division is not in that vicinity. They heard that Hampton's division went away yesterday morning; it was reported they had gone to the Valley. Chambliss' brigade is now in W. H. F. Lee's division. Two deserters from Finegan's Florida brigade came in to-day, but give no information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. MCENTEE,
Captain, &c.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Respectfully forwarded for General Grant's information.

G. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—10 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Brigadier-General Willcox informs me he has assumed command of the Ninth Corps. No official communication has been received at these headquarters authorizing General Burnside to leave. Has any action been had or taken?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 13, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

I gave General Burnside leave of absence. The leave is only just made out this evening, and directions were given to communicate the fact to you, and no doubt it would have been communicated in the morning by the assistant adjutant-general. General Parke will command the Ninth Corps. He has gone out this evening.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—10 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The following is referred for the necessary authority to bring up the 10-inch mortars, as under your orders of the 30th ultimo all these mortars were withdrawn and sent to Broadway Landing.

G. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The enemy has established a battery of rifled 32-pounders just behind the crest near the plank road, in front of and about 1,300

yards from our large battery near the Taylor house. As yet, but one or two guns have been opened on us. The position is well covered from our direct fire. I would recommend that four 10-inch or 8-inch, preferably 10-inch, mortars be placed in position near the Taylor house to control it.

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 13, 1864—10.30 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires me to say that he approves the proposition in reference to the mortars, and wishes you to move them up from Broadway accordingly.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

The withdrawal of Gregg's division of cavalry and Kautz's small force leaves but little cavalry to watch between the left of the army and the James. I would, therefore, suggest the withdrawal of the cattle herd of the armies in the field as near City Point as practicable. Kautz has been ordered to post a regiment at Sycamore Church.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 270. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, August 13, 1864.*

At the expiration of his present leave of absence, Col. Charles P. Stone, Fourteenth U. S. Infantry, will report in person, without delay, to the commanding general Fifth Corps, Army of the Potomac, for duty.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Deserters from W. H. F. Lee's division of cavalry, Tenth Virginia Regiment, report the division doing duty in vicinity of Reams' Station. They say this is all the cavalry in that vicinity. They state that Hampton's division went away yesterday morning, supposed toward the Valley, and that Fitz. Lee's division left for the Valley shortly after the mine explosion. Deserters from Finegan's brigade report no change in position here.

J. C. B[ABCOCK].

CITY POINT, *August 13, 1864.*

J. C. BABCOCK:

Our scouts on the Rappahannock report Fitzhugh Lee's division of cavalry to have arrived at Orange Court-House on Wednesday. They also report the movements of the infantry to the Valley, but without definiteness as to numbers and commands. They thought there was a brigade of A. P. Hill's corps among them.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

CITY POINT, *August 13, 1864.*

JOHN C. BABCOCK:

Information from agent who went to Richmond Thursday and left to return yesterday noon: He went and came by Charles City road, on which he saw pickets at Smith's, east of Willis' Methodist Church, and also at Ridley's [Riddell's?] Shop; heard that four miles from White's Tavern toward river there was a camp of seven regiments of infantry; very few troops in the first line of fortifications, and none in the second except guards at the magazines. Work is being done at the fortifications on the north side of the city. The troops that were sent north in the first part of the week were moved through town with secrecy. People understood that three divisions had gone, but all he could learn with definiteness that they were Longstreet's divisions. A train of artillery passed through from the Manchester side yesterday morning which he describes as being three-quarters of a mile long.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

[Indorsement.]

AUGUST 13, 1864—9 p. m.

Respectfully forwarded to Major-General Humphreys for his information.

J. C. BABCOCK.

BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
City Point, August 13, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: From one of our agents who went to Richmond on Thursday, and returning left Richmond yesterday about noon, we have the following information: The agent went and returned by the Charles City road. Saw some pickets at Smith's house, east of Willis' Methodist Church, and also at Ridley's [Riddell's?] Shop, which were all the troops he met on the route. He learned that four miles from White's Tavern toward the river there was a camp of seven regiments of infantry, which he thinks was all the force there is in the neighborhood of Deep Bottom. Of this, however, he has no certainty, as he did not leave the Charles City road going or returning. In the first line of works he saw a few troops, and altogether on both sides of the road as he went in about fifty tents, and nothing in the second line except guards at the magazines. There were no troops in Richmond except convalescents passing through. Work was being done to the fortifications on the north side of the city, across the Brook pike and the Central and Fredericksburg railroads. He says that it was understood

that three divisions of infantry went to Early in the first part of the week. Great secrecy was observed in the movement, and the troops were taken through the city mostly in the night. The inquiries that he made resulted only in learning that they were Longstreet's divisions. Yesterday he saw a train of artillery, which he describes as being about three-quarters of a mile long, cross the river from the Manchester side, and was told by Mr. Barnes, a prominent merchant, that they were going to the Valley. He thought that yesterday on his return there was greater activity at the lines and picket posts than on his way up. At the point where a road from Malvern Hill intersects the Charles City road he saw a small boat on a Government wagon coming from toward the James River.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
In the Field, August 13, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
Deputy Provost-Marshal-General, City Point:

I was away when your dispatch came. Field's division cannot have left our front, as I have here General Law's adjutant-general of that division, captured night before last. Nothing, I am satisfied, has left the front of our lines save Kershaw's division.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp, and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
In the Field, August 13, 1864—11 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
Deputy Provost-Marshal-General, City Point:

I have quite positive information that every regiment of Lee's army, save Pickett's division, is under marching orders to go to the Valley. Kershaw has left. I have information to-night, by deserters just received, that Hampton's cavalry all went through last night. From two different deserters, from two different divisions, I have it that Heth's division, or a part of it, has gone through. From three different men I have it that every regiment of Lee's army, save Pickett's, is under orders to go north, and that he is ordered to report to Beauregard. Please ascertain about Heth.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp, and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

TREE STATION, *August 13, 1864.*

Major FISHER:

Captain Norton sends the following:

Rebel rams have come down to within a short distance of Dutch Gap and are shelling the working party at that place.

C. L. DAVIS,
Captain and Signal Officer.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded to General Humphreys.

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

GIBBON'S HOUSE, *August 13, 1864—7.50 a. m.*

Major FISHER, *Chief Signal Officer:*

The large camp of the enemy west by north of this station disappeared last night; also a camp to left of white house and from this point southwest by south has disappeared. A large fort was also thrown up at that point during last night. A fatigue party are busy on it this morning.

A. C. JORDAN.

STATION NEAR GIBBON'S HOUSE,
August 13, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER, *Chief Signal Officer:*

Nothing additional to report of this p. m., except about 200 infantry, which moved into Petersburg from the south side about 10.30 a. m. Their arms are yet stacked in city. The enemy are very busy on new fort.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 13, 1864—8 a. m.

Major FISHER:

Large camp of enemy in woods west-northwest from station vacated during the night. No other change visible. A fatigue party of 100 men at 5 a. m. moved toward the forts on our right.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 13, 1864—7 p. m.

Capt. D. E. CASTLE:

No change in enemy's lines or camps since morning report. They continue to haul large quantities of logs to the forts on our right.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 13, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following reports just received:

WALTHALL HOUSE, *August 13, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

A dense cloud of smoke (probably woods on fire) rising for the past hour north 10 degrees west from here and apparently a short distance from the Appomattox.

DAVIS,
Captain.

STATION NEAR HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 13, 1864.

No changes. Enemy laboring on small work 1,000 yards to right of Chimneys.

WARTS,
Lieutenant.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant.
By order:

WM. S. STRYKER,
First Lieutenant and Adjutant Signal Corps.

AUGUST 13, 1864—12.05 a. m. [p. m.]

Captain NORTON:

The gun-boat Mackinaw keeps the Signal Hill battery pretty quiet; our monitors not firing. The Onondaga fired a few shots some time since. Two of the rebel rams fire occasionally, and the 100-pounder at Battery Sawyer. The 100-pounder at Dutch Gap was fired twice. One ram lies down nearly to Dutch Gap; another is behind the group of houses at Cox's Ferry. A number of wounded have been brought over.

G. S. DANA,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD NEW YORK CAVALRY,
McCann's House, near Plank Road, August 13, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has transpired on my lines since morning, except the coming in of two deserters from the Tenth Virginia Cavalry. I forwarded them to the provost-marshal of the Fifth Army Corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. LEWIS,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
City Point, Va., August 13, 1864.

Capt. W. HENDERSON,
Comdg. Company B, Fifteenth New York Vol. Engineers:

You will proceed with your company and Lieutenant Sergeant, with thirty men from Company D, in charge of the raft of thirty-six boats now made up, to Deep Bottom, on the James River. On arrival you will commence laying the bridge immediately, sending an officer to report to the commanding general nearest you, but not waiting for his return before commencing work. Captain Lubey will render you all the assistance in his power without interfering with his other duties. Your men will take two days' cooked rations with them. A tug will be at the barges at 7 p. m. to-day to tow your raft, and it is expected that your bridge will be finished before 12 midnight.

By order of Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
City Point:

Please report to the lieutenant-general commanding for further instructions in addition to those sent you yesterday, and have a full understanding of his views.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., August 13, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Army Corps:

In addition to the instructions which you already have but little can be added. You will have to be guided in your movements by those of the enemy and his numbers. If you do not succeed in placing the enemy between your infantry and the James River it may not be safe to send the cavalry to the Virginia Central Railroad. Of this matter you can best judge. There is no necessity of holding your connection with Deep Bottom. With the force at your command you will always be able to get back to that point or some other on the James River. Wherever you go consume or destroy all the forage and provisions, except what is housed for family use, if it does not interfere with military movements to do so. I always regret to see wanton destruction of property which cannot be used in prolonging the war, and know that you equally oppose such conduct on the part of our troops. No caution on this head, therefore, is necessary. Cattle, horses, forage, and provisions, however, and especially so near a partially besieged city, are fair captures, and it is a duty we owe ourselves to take them even if they should be the property of Union citizens. In such case, a very improbable one near Richmond, they could be paid for. Having a force of 9,000 men from the Tenth Army Corps in addition to your own corps, if you can advance beyond Chaffin's Bluff, keeping that point covered, I think it advisable to do so. Unless forced to return in order to keep communication with the James, remain at the highest point up the river gained until the cavalry returns and you receive orders to return. You can always be supplied by steamers, either at Dutch Gap or Deep Bottom.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 13, 1864.

Lieut. Col. F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to state that I have returned from leave of absence this a. m., and resumed command of the division.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 210. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *City Point, August 13, 1864.*

1. Capt. J. P. Finkelmeier, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, will report to Brigadier-General Mott, commanding Third Division, for assignment.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

F. A. WALKER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *August 13, 1864.*

Division commanders will cause all the pack and led animals, and as many saddle-horses as can be possibly spared, to be collected near their present camps under charge of an officer, who will report to Captain McEntee, assistant quartermaster, for orders. These horses will be sent to the train under charge of Captain McEntee. The major-general commanding thinks much the greater number of animals with the command can be thus temporarily separated from it, so as to make the disembarkation of the troops much more prompt and easy. Arrangements will be made so that these animals can be obtained as soon as the troops are disembarked. Officers and men will probably get their horses sooner by this means than any other, as it may be important that the troops should be in a condition to disembark rapidly. It is hoped division commanders will carry out the above suggestions to the fullest extent practicable.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *August 13, 1864.*

The troops will commence embarking at 11 a. m. It is expected there will be a wharf for each division, but should there not be, the divisions will embark in the following order: Third Division, Second Division, First Division. Major Mitchell, aide-de-camp, will have general superintendence of the embarkation. The pioneers of the Third Division will be consolidated and will embark on the first boat. The organization of brigades and regiments will be preserved, both in embarking and when on the boat, so that the troops may be in hand at all times. All spring and other wagons will be sent to these headquarters to join the train under Captain McEntee, assistant quartermaster. The transports of each division will be kept together in the stream after loading.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *City Point, August 13, 1864.*

The following movements of the troops are directed:

First. Gregg's division of cavalry will, soon as it is dark, proceed to Deep Bottom, crossing the river at the lower bridge and massing

toward Strawberry Plains, leaving room for the infantry of the Second Corps to mass between his command and the belt of woods near the bridge.

Second. The Second Corps (the transports containing the Third Division leading) will move at 10 p. m. to Deep Bottom, and disembark as rapidly as possible on the north bank of the James, massing behind the belt of woods where the corps massed July 26. The Second and First Divisions will disembark in succession and mass in rear of the Third Division.

Third. General Birney's command, Tenth Corps, will cross the upper bridge at Deep Bottom at 12 p. m., taking position to assault the enemy's works at daybreak.

Fourth. The commandant of artillery will assign two batteries to each division and will follow the cavalry with these batteries, crossing the lower pontoon bridge in rear of the cavalry and parking near the bridge-head. The battery commanders will then report to the commander of the division to which they are assigned.

Fifth. The saddle and led horses of the command will follow the artillery and join their respective divisions. They will be followed by the reserve artillery, the headquarters' spring wagons, wagons for three days' forage, and, for each division, ten ammunition wagons, one hospital and one medical wagon, and twenty ambulances. The remainder of the ambulance, hospital, and ammunition wagons can cross after the troops have advanced well out from Deep Bottom.

Sixth. At daybreak, or as soon as General Mott's division is disembarked, he will proceed up the New Market and Malvern Hill road, driving the enemy into his intrenched line behind Bailey's Creek, or beyond it, if practicable. During this operation the cavalry under General Gregg will cover the right flank of General Mott's division. As soon as the Second and First Divisions, Second Corps, are disembarked they will, under command of General Barlow, move to General Mott's right, and assault the enemy's line near the Jennings house. If the line is carried General Barlow will move to his left to uncover General Mott's front, who will then advance along the New Market road.

Seventh. The cavalry will cover the right flank of General Barlow's command during this operation. As soon as the Central and Charles City Court-House roads are uncovered by the advance of the infantry, General Gregg will proceed to execute the orders already received by him, identical with those of July 25.*

Eighth. General Birney, with his command, will be prepared to attack the enemy in position behind Four-Mile Run at daybreak. The hour for attack will, however, be specially designated to General Birney. If successful, he will advance along the New Market and Kingsland roads to the junction of the Varina road; then along the Varina road to the Mill road, securing, if possible, the cross-roads at Osborne's old turnpike.

Ninth. The headquarters of the command will be on the New Market and Malvern Hill road during the operations of the 14th. Until that time they will be near General Foster's headquarters at the upper pontoon bridge at Deep Bottom.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

*For which, see Vol. XL, Part III, p. 437.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 115. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS, *August 13, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

2. Col. George N. Macy, Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteers, will assume command of the First Brigade.

3. Lieutenant-Colonel Pierce is hereby relieved from command of the First Brigade and will assume command of the Third Brigade, relieving Lieut. Col. S. A. Moore, Fourteenth Connecticut Volunteers.

4. Lieut. Col. H. P. Rugg, Fifty-ninth New York Volunteers, is hereby temporarily assigned to the command of the First Brigade of this division.

* * * * * * *

By command of Colonel Smyth:

A. HENRY EMBLER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND CORPS, *August 13, 1864.*

The following assignments of batteries to divisions are made: To the First Division, Battery K, Fourth U. S. Artillery, and the Eleventh New York Battery; to the Second Division, Sixth Maine Battery and Battery G, First New York Artillery; to the Third Division, Battery F, First Pennsylvania Artillery, and Battery B, First New Jersey Artillery. The commanding officers of the batteries above named will not report to their division commanders until notified to do so by a staff officer from these headquarters. The batteries will move in the order in which they are above mentioned. The time for movement will be designated hereafter.

By command of Capt. A. J. Clark:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 13, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that everything was quiet in my front during the night; 1,400 men are at work on the redoubt to-day near the old ten-gun mortar battery and Battery Tilton.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—10 a. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general directs that you order the Sixth New York Regiment of Heavy Artillery to proceed forthwith to City Point, to embark thence for Washington. The commander of the regiment will make his requisition on General Ingalls, at City Point, for transportation, and on arriving at Washington will report for further orders to General Halleck, chief of staff.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you be prepared to move at short notice, and see that the required amount of supplies are on hand—six days' rations in trains and four days' with the men, ammunition, and grain—according to recent orders. The working parties employed on the intrenchments will not be relieved from them, and precautions will be taken in obtaining the necessary supplies, if they should not be on hand, to conceal the fact that it has reference to any contingency looking to a movement; that is, the commanding general desires you to be prepared to move at short notice, yet wishes that it shall not be suspected by any part of your command that any movement is contemplated as probable.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to General Burnside.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 13, 1864. (Received 7.30 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Captain Harwood, U. S. Engineers, telegraphs me to furnish him 2,100 men for fatigue to-morrow, 1,200 of whom are to report at the camp of the Fiftieth New York Engineers, near the Fifth Corps hospital, at 7.30 a. m. to-morrow. Am I authorized to send that number so far away from my line?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Yes; the major-general commanding authorizes you to send the detail for to-morrow as requested.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 13, 1864—9 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has transpired in my front during the day. Eight hundred and fifty men are at work to-night upon the line in my front.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

I am instructed to inform you that Major-General Hancock, with the Second Corps and other troops and Gregg's cavalry, is conducting an operation of the same character and with the same object as that undertaken by him on the 26th ultimo. The chief engineer, Major Duane, has been directed to stop the work on the intrenchments to-morrow, so that the requisitions for working parties need not be met. If Hancock's movement should lead to the almost entire abandonment of the enemy's intrenchments in our front, the commanding general will take advantage of it by withdrawing the greater part of the Fifth and Ninth Corps, or one of the corps and part of the other, leaving a thin line in the intrenchments, and undertake such operations as may seem best. The commanding general therefore directs the enemy's lines be closely watched and every arrangement be made with a view to the movements here indicated.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to General Willcox, commanding Ninth Army Corps.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—12 midnight.

Major-General WARREN:

I think, in view of contingencies to-morrow, you had better draw in any part of your command that may be on the Norfolk road, or between there and the redoubt in rear of the Chieves house, and not hold any farther to the left than that point after holding your line with the minimum force. Your available reserves had better be concentrated on your left ready for movement.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 13, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that no changes or anything of importance occurred on my front during the night. The picket-firing was quite heavy.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 13, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

We had on fatigue duty last night 1,000 men; to-day we have 1,200 men. To-night 1,000 have been ordered. An additional working party for to-night of 400 are now called for. The details have been called for by Captain Harwood, of the engineers. I desire to know if they are authorized, and to state that the corps is not in condition to furnish

such large details, and to remind the commanding general that the men on our front lines are constantly under fire, and such portions as come off the lines from time to time require rest and are not in condition to work.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to say, in answer to your dispatch, that under existing circumstances it is necessary that the works in hand should be completed as speedily as practicable, and that the different corps must furnish every man that can be made available. It was intended to so inform the corps commanders previous to the engineers making the requisitions you mention, which the commanding general directs me to say are authorized.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 13, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

The additional 400 men required by Captain Harwood cannot be furnished without taking men off the line. Six hundred men from the Second Division and the same number from the Third Division are at work to-day, and 1,000 men were at work from the Fourth Division last night and the same number to-night, and the First Division cannot furnish over 100 men without taking them from the line.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—5.15 p. m.

General BURNSIDE:

Your dispatch of 4.45 p. m. has been submitted to the major-general commanding, who directs that the additional requisition of 400 men must be furnished. If a serious attack should be made, the details can quickly rejoin their commands.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 13, 1864—9 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report myself in command of this corps, and nothing important has occurred on the lines during the last twelve hours.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—9.40 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Ninth Corps:

Your dispatch is just received. The commanding general desires to know by what authority or under what circumstances you are in command of the Ninth Corps, as nothing to that effect has been received by him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 13, 1864—9.55 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: In reply to your dispatch of 9.40, this command was turned over to me this evening by General Burnside, who goes away under a leave of absence for twenty days, granted, as I understand, by Lieutenant-General Grant. I supposed, of course, it was known by the major-general commanding the army.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 13, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

I have turned over the command of this corps to General Willcox, having received permission from Lieutenant-General Grant to absent myself from this post. I supposed you knew of it.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—10.15 p. m. (Received 10.20 p. m.)

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Your dispatch to the major-general commanding is received. He requests me to say he had no notice of your authority to be absent, but presumes it is all correct.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 13, 1864.

GENERAL: In anticipation of possible movements of the troops of a general character the brigadier-general commanding directs that the enemy's lines be watched closely and with the greatest scrutiny, and that every arrangement be made, with a view either to attack in front or to

relieve troops of other corps, or to withdraw the troops from their line for more distant operations. Details for working parties for to-morrow need not be furnished, the work being suspended for the present.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. V. RICHARDS,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

(To division commanders.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 13, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report everything quiet on my front at present. The musketry firing during the night was heavy and continuous. The railroad trains of the enemy were heard running during the night. Six hundred men from my command have reported, as ordered, for fatigue duty.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 13, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: Having been appointed "general of the trenches" for the tour commencing at 8 a. m. 12th instant, and ending at 8 a. m. 13th instant, I have the honor to report the following: The policing in and about the trenches and in the camps of the reserves was ordered and executed satisfactorily. A new line is being constructed with excellent abatis in rear of the front line of the trenches of this corps. The picket-firing was more vigorous than usual, and the enemy opened a brisk fire from a battery of heavy pieces in front of the Third Division, and from their mortars in front of the First Division, but did no damage. The camps of some of the regiments of the Second Division are not sufficiently protected from the stray bullets of the enemy, and I would respectfully recommend that timber be obtained and better protection made for these troops.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY PLEASANTS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Second Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 13, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

SIR: I have the honor to report no changes on my front during the last twelve hours. The enemy's sharpshooters in front of the Second

Division (on our right) annoy our men very much in the ravine directly in rear of our line; also on the railroad where it is crossed by the covered way.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 13, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

SIR: I have the honor to report all quiet on my front during the day. The enemy have fired less than usual with artillery and musketry.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864.

General GREGG:

Please read the inclosed, seal it, and oblige me by having the officer directed to General Kautz's headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

If the implements for destroying railroads provided for former occasions are with your trains the commanding general directs that you take them with you, giving the order for their accompanying you at such time and in such manner as will not admit of its being known that they are with you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—General Kautz will inform the commanding general where his headquarters are established.

HDQRS. SECOND DIV., CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The implements for destroying railroads are not in my possession, nor do I know what disposition was made of them. Gen-

eral Kautz's headquarters are at present near Light-House Point, but I will advise him to move to this point. I have directed my command to move at 4 this p. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. MCM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864.

This command will move at 4 o'clock this p. m. Each trooper will be provided with three days' rations of subsistence and two days' forage; also, sixty rounds of carbine ammunition and twelve rounds of pistol cartridges. All dismounted men and actually unserviceable horses will be sent to the dismounted camp, and the unserviceable horses only after having been inspected by the brigade inspectors. The present camps will be broken up, and all wagons and vehicles sent to the division wagon train. One wagon will be allowed to accompany each brigade headquarters. One medicine wagon and ten ambulances will accompany the command.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

H. C. WEIR,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
August 13, 1864—6.20 a. m. (Received 6.35 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The rams have moved down in the next reach beyond Dutch Gap, below Cox's Ferry. Battery Sawyer (water battery) is replying.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 13, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point:

The rebel rams, the rebel battery at signal station and Howlett house, have opened upon the working parties at Dutch Gap. The Sawyer Battery, which is the one at Crow's Nest signal station, the Water Battery, the mortar battery (Wilcox), one of the redoubts, have opened in reply. Five or six men were wounded by a chance shot. I have directed the 100-pounder, which is in position at Dutch Gap, to open.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

List of rebel forces now on the north side of the James River.

Division.	Brigade.	Regiment.	Commander.	Number of men in brigade.
Field's (of Anderson's, late Longstreet's corps).	Benning's old.	2d Georgia	Harris	1,000
		15th Georgia	DuBose	
		17th Georgia	Hodges	
		20th Georgia	Waddell	
	Anderson	7th Georgia	Carmical	1,250
		8th Georgia	Towers	
		9th Georgia	Mounger	
		11th Georgia	Little	
		59th Georgia	Brown	
	Law's (Colonel Perry, commanding).	4th Alabama	Bowles	1,250
		15th Alabama	Lowther	
		44th Alabama	Perry	
		47th Alabama	Bulger	
		48th Alabama		
	Gregg (Robertson's old).	1st Texas		1,250
		4th Texas	Key	
		5th Texas	Powell	
		3d Arkansas	Manning	
		Hampton Legion		
	Bratton's (Jenkins' old).	1st South Carolina Volunteers		1,250
		2d South Carolina Rifles		
		5th South Carolina		
		6th South Carolina	Steedman	
		Palmetto Sharpshooters	Walker	
		Total		6,000
Wilcox's (of A. P. Hill's corps).	Lane	7th North Carolina	Haywood	1,250
		18th North Carolina		
		33d North Carolina	Avery	
		28th North Carolina	Speer	
		37th North Carolina	Barbour	
	McGowan's (now Conner's).	1st South Carolina, Prov. Army.	Hamilton	1,250
		1st South Carolina Rifles	Miller	
		12th South Carolina	Barnes	
		13th South Carolina	Edwards	
		14th South Carolina	Perrin	
		Total		2,500
		Aggregate		8,500

The Nineteenth Virginia Militia (reserves) is also there, stationed at Chaffin's farm. Colonel Elliott is in command. This is all the force known to be upon the north side of James River, although there are rumors of another brigade being there.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp, and Asst. Provost-Marshal,
Office Bureau of Information.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
In the Field, Va., August 13, 1864.

MEMORANDUM: From various reports of deserters and refugees and from all the circumstantial evidence that can be obtained, it seems pretty certain that Conner's brigade, of Wilcox's division, has left and gone to join Early up the Valley; also that Gregg and Benning have gone from Field's division. The whole division is reported under marching orders, but all of it has not yet left. Supposing, however, all the force here named to be there, and allowing 250 men to a regiment,

which is full all they will number, the total force on the north side of the James is not over 8,500 men, independent of what small reserve militia force is scattered through the country there.

Respectfully,

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, Aide de-Camp, and Asst. Provost-Marshal.

[Indorsement.]

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have given this in detail that you may examine for yourself. In my opinion there are not 5,000 regular Confederates north of the James and south of Richmond.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 13, 1864—7.15 a. m.

Captain NORTON:

Howlett battery has opened. First shot struck near the landing at Dutch Gap.

G. S. DANA,
Captain, &c.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 13, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports that at 4 p. m. ten cars partly loaded with troops passed the Junction toward Richmond.

Very respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

(Sent to Lieutenant-General Grant, 5.30 p. m.)

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 13, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer on Spring Hill reports that at 5.45 p. m. a heavy column of dust was seen on turnpike advancing toward Richmond.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST CONNECTICUT ARTILLERY,
August 13, 1864.

Lieut. B. P. LEARNED,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Siege Train:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that yesterday, at 3 p. m., I arrived at Dutch Gap with a 100-pounder gun, which was taken to its position with the least possible delay. There were no preparations made for placing the gun in position; the parapet was about three feet high; no platform laid; no magazine yet commenced at dark last evening; yet it is expected by Major Ludlow to have the gun in position ready for service this morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. P. HATFIELD,
Capt., First Connecticut Artillery, Ordnance Officer, Siege Train.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 73. } HDQRS. 2D DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
Near Hatcher's, Va., August 13, 1864.

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II. Col. F. A. Osborn, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, having reported, pursuant to instructions from headquarters Tenth Army Corps, is hereby assigned to the command of the Third Brigade of this division. The brigade staff of the Third Brigade will report to Col. F. A. Osborn.

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By order of Brigadier-General Turner:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Capt., Forty-seventh New York Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 101. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, August 13, 1864.

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5. Col. F. A. Osborn, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, is hereby ordered to report immediately to Brig. Gen. J. W. Turner, commanding Second Division, for assignment to duty in command of a brigade.

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By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 13, 1864—8.25 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

Proceed as directed in verbal conference. Written instructions in accordance therewith are on the way to you.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 13, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

In accordance with verbal instructions heretofore given you, upon consultation, you will take all the men that can, in your judgment, be spared from the lines between the Appomattox and the James; march across the pontoon bridge at Deep Bottom at such time as will enable you to strike the enemy in front of Brigadier-General Foster in the most feasible form at daybreak on the morning of the 14th. You will take such portion of General Foster's command, and add it to your own, as you think will be prudent. As you are to advance, leaving Deep Bottom behind you, in my judgment a small force will be necessary. You will turn over the command of the line of defenses to Brigadier-General Turner, instructing him what troops you have left for that purpose. I shall be able to add from the dismounted cavalry and from Graham possibly 800 men. You may order such portion of the garrison of Fort Converse as you think can be spared for the present. Perhaps you can draw largely, too, on General Turner. I forbear giving instructions in writing, because the details have already been arranged between us personally. You will report to Major-General Hancock, who will be at Deep Bottom in the course of the night. Any other instructions that you may desire from me will be promptly met by telegraph.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 13, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

General Terry will remain in command of his division, very few of whom are in the line of defenses. General Turner will be put in command of all the troops used in the defense of the line. General Terry's division extends farther and beyond, and on application I, being present, will order such troops of General Terry's division as may be necessary for the line of defenses to report to General Turner.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 24. } *In Field, near Hatcher's, Va., August 13, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. F. McGilvery, First Maine Light Artillery, having reported for duty in obedience to orders from the War Department, is hereby announced as chief of artillery and of ordnance of the corps, and will at once assume command of the Artillery Brigade, relieving Capt. F. M. Follett, Fourth Artillery, who will resume command of his battery.

By command of Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 13, 1864.

Division commanders and chief of artillery will hold their commands in readiness to move at a moment's notice. Three days' cooked rations will be ready from this evening. Inspections will be at once had and reports made as to ammunition in cartridge boxes and in train. The chief of artillery will see that three days' forage is carried on the caissons. All enlisted men acting as clerks or waiters must be armed and ready to join their companies on the march. The only exceptions to this rule will be made by division commanders where the public service demands it. Arms sufficient to equip all unequipped men can be obtained at the corps hospital. Great care must be taken to see that shoes are issued to supply all deficiencies. This must be done to-day.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General

MARCHING ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 13, 1864.

This corps will move promptly at 11 p. m. in the following order: First Division, Second Division, Birney's brigade. The march will be to Deep Bottom, crossing at pontoon bridge near General Foster's headquarters and massing near there in position to be indicated by a staff officer. The chief of artillery will designate four batteries to accompany the movement, two to be assigned during it to each division. General Turner will order the brigade of his on picket and in trenches to report temporarily to General Terry, who will assume command of the troops of the Tenth Corps left in the trenches, and defend the line, using every precaution to conceal the departure of troops. The usual calls will be sounded along the line. The ambulances of the corps will be parked near the pontoon bridge below Jones' Landing. Trains will be parked in convenient positions. Only sick men will be left in camp and those unequipped. Every effort must be made to turn out the full strength. Lieutenant-Colonel Washburn, with the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, will report to General Terry and be placed, without delay, in the trenches. General Terry will report here for fuller orders. Headquarters of the corps will be during the movement on the right bank of the James, near the pontoon bridge.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 13, 1864. (Received 10.50 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

General Birney has communicated to me your order for me to remain in command of trenches. Two brigades of my division go with General Birney. My place is with them. It seems to be my right to go.

Respectfully,

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 13, 1864—11.05 p. m.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Tenth Army Corps:

I agree it is your right to go, but it is the duty of somebody to stay. The lieutenant-general particularly designated you this morning to me. I appreciate your wishes as a soldier. I wish we could all go, but the path of duty is not always along the road of inclination. Motives of personal friendship made me consent that you should stay.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, TENTH CORPS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., August 13, 1864.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, First Division:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report this command ready to march, except filling haversacks and striking tents. The brigade will march with about the following numbers; entire accuracy is impossible:

Regiment.	On march.		Left in invalid camp.	
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.
7th Connecticut Volunteers	15	393	2	30
7th New Hampshire Volunteers	20	359	.....	38
6th Connecticut Volunteers	14	500	4	40
3d New Hampshire Volunteers	20	452	1	49
16th New York Heavy Artillery	5	244	5	50
Total	74	1,948	12	207

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. R. HAWLEY,
Colonel Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, Comdg. Brigade.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 5.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE,
SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Hatcher's, Va., August 13, 1864.

In obedience to instructions from corps headquarters the undersigned hereby assumes command of the Third Brigade, Second Division, Tenth Army Corps. The brigade staff will remain the same as heretofore announced.

F. A. OSBORN,
Colonel Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Bland's House, August 13, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

I have to report that all is quiet in front of the line from Sinai Church to Cocke's Mill this morning. No pickets of the enemy in sight. This

line is picketed by the Second Brigade of my division, under Colonel Spear, of the First Brigade. One regiment (Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry) has been sent to Fort Powhatan to look after the interruptions of the telegraph line. The other regiment, Third New York Cavalry, Colonel Lewis, was sent to relieve the pickets of the Second Division, Cavalry Corps, last night, and I have not yet heard from it. I have directed Colonel Lewis to report direct to you, morning and evening, the condition of affairs at his line, as it would cause too much delay to send his report through these headquarters. The line is very long and thin, and the whole division being on duty I have no reserves. In front of the Second Brigade there does not seem to be any force of the enemy, but small parties of the enemy are constantly attempting to capture the pickets. Six of my men have been captured in the past six days on this line in spite of every precaution to prevent them. As the Fifth Pennsylvania has passed beyond my control I do not know when to expect its return.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

I will send duplicate of General Kautz's order to him, and direct him to move his headquarters to Prince George Court-House (vicinity of).

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

Colonel Lewis, commanding Third New York Cavalry, reports that his regiment, 370 strong, relieved the First Brigade, Second Division, in picketing on the left of the army. The major-general commanding considers that the main part of your force should be posted on the left, picketing and patrolling between that and the Blackwater. As all the camps and trains have been removed from Jordan's Point and that vicinity, very little force will be required to watch between the Blackwater and James. Please report the disposition you make of your command under this view and where your headquarters are.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—12 m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

Your communication of 9 a. m. is received. At 10.30 a. m. I sent you instructions as to the disposition of your force, a copy of which I inclose.* Not less than a brigade should be between the left and the Blackwater, and a stronger force than that when your regiment returns from Powhatan. The commanding general directs that you establish

* See next, *ante*.

your headquarters in the vicinity of Prince George Court-House, and that you keep the full amount of supplies on hand required by orders, and be prepared to move at short notice. You will get your supplies from the depots of the Army of the Potomac.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Near Prince George Court-House, August 13, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Major Baker, commanding First District of Columbia Cavalry, who was stationed at Sycamore Church and who has reported here to re-enforce Colonel Lewis with his regiment, reports that there is a large herd of Government cattle near Cocke's Mill that is exposed to guerrillas that are very numerous. The withdrawal of Major Baker leaves no protection there except an occasional patrol from Mount Sinai Church. I have no doubt that the telegraph will be cut near Cocke's Mill as soon as it is known that Major Baker has been withdrawn.

Very respectfully,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

I don't see why the regiment was not left at Sycamore Church to make an occasional patrol to Mount Sinai Church. If General K. has a regiment near Mount Sinai had he not better send it to Sycamore? Chief part of force between Blackwater and James to be posted at Sycamore Church, patrolling toward Blackwater, &c.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 13, 1864—10 p. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ, *Commanding Cavalry Division:*

Your dispatch of 9 p. m. is received. The commanding general considers that the chief part of the force between the Blackwater and James should be at Sycamore Church, patrolling toward the Blackwater and elsewhere that may be necessary, and directs that you arrange accordingly.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 13, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Your note of this evening has been received. If I comply with the instructions contained in it, it reduces the line to precisely what it was this morning, or else leaves a gap at Mount Sinai Church, which I regard as the most important point of the line. By weakening the force at Mount Sinai Church I can extend it to Sycamore, but the force will not be strong enough to be a protection for

the cattle herd, for a force sufficient to drive off the cattle could break through the line. The line from the left of the army to Sycamore Church is about twenty-five miles. To picket this line I have now about 1,300 men. If the regiment at Fort Powhatan were here I would place it at Sycamore Church, which would hold that point. By telegraphing to General Butler it could be ascertained when that regiment will be back, and I could halt it there. It would perhaps be safest to call the cattle herd in for the present, nearer the railroad.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *August 14, 1864—1.50 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

The Secretary of War and I concur that you had better confer with General Lee and stipulate for a mutual discontinuance of house burning and other destruction of private property. The time and manner of conference and particulars of stipulation we leave, on our part, to your convenience and judgment.

A. LINCOLN.

STRAWBERRY PLAINS, VA., *August 14, 1864—10 a. m.*
(Received 9 a. m. 15th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Washington, D. C.:*

Last night I moved the Second Corps, about 9,000 men of the Tenth Corps, and Gregg's division of cavalry, to this (north) side of the river to threaten Richmond from the north, and, if possible, to draw back troops from the Valley. We have captured prisoners from four different brigades of Field's division, Longstreet's corps, and also from Wilcox's division, of Hill's corps. Field's division is one that we supposed had gone to the Valley. We know two divisions of Hill's corps to be at Petersburg. This fixes the third division here, as I have heretofore supposed. Pickett's division, of Longstreet's corps, is opposite Butler at Bermuda Hundred. This leaves but one division of infantry to have gone to the Valley. I am now satisfied no more has gone. Please forward this to Sheridan.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 14, 1864—8 p. m.*
(Received 3.30 p. m., 16th.)

Major-General HALLECK, *Washington, D. C.:*

The move to the north side of the James to-day developed the presence of Field's division, of Longstreet's corps, which I supposed had gone to the Valley. Pickett's division is also here. We captured 6 pieces of artillery and over 100 prisoners. Longstreet's troops were under marching orders, and this move will detain it at least for the present. I think Sheridan is still superior to Early in numbers, but not sufficiently so to attack fortifications.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 14, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Special Orders, No. 73, granting leave of absence for thirty days to Maj. Gen. A. E. Burnside and Lieutenant-Colonel Richmond, assistant adjutant-general, of the Ninth Corps, are on the way to your headquarters; also leave of absence to Lieutenant-Colonel Peirce, chief quartermaster, for eight days, granted on recommendation of General Ingalls.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, or Deep Bottom:

Have I any authority to call on General Ord for assistance in case of making a movement? The only movement in my judgment practicable is to take Warren out of his lines and move him around the enemy's works till he finds a point he can penetrate. To do this his line must either be occupied by the extension of the Ninth and Eighteenth Corps, or else left unoccupied, in which case there are redoubts which, should the enemy get possession of, it might seriously embarrass us to recover. I have sent my engineers to examine how Parke's left flank can be covered in case of Warren's line being given up; but should it be deemed best to hold Warren's line some portion of the Eighteenth, if any can be spared, must assist in the extension.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Deep Bottom, August 14, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

In case you find it practicable to make any demonstration against Petersburg, command the Eighteenth Corps, as you deem proper. General Ord will be directed to receive orders from you.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. SIGNAL DEPT., ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch just received from the signal officer with the Fifth Corps:

The enemy's infantry has been passing on road right of Petersburg, going to our right, ambulances and a train of wagons following them, moving rapidly. Should call it a division.

D. E. CASTLE,
Acting Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

[Indorsement.]

AUGUST 14, 1864—7 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The above just received. This is the first indication of any movement that has been seen to-day.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—7.10 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I propose to withdraw Warren to-night, and leave his line to be held by Parke, extending Ord as far as the exploded mine; Warren to be held in reserve, either for a movement or to re-enforce any part of the line if attacked. As Ord was to be used only in case of a movement, I submit this to you before giving orders.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 14, 1864—7.20 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

You may extend the Ninth and Eighteenth Corps, as you propose. If Parke and Ord will leave a very thin line in the works and have the bulk of their men in reserve, it will rest them very much. I am satisfied that a thin skirmish line is plenty to man our works, especially where there is a reserve.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: One lieutenant and four privates, deserters from the enemy, have just been forwarded from the headquarters of the Fifth Corps. The privates belong to the Sixth and Sixty-first Virginia Regiments, Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division, Hill's corps. They report no changes in the enemy's position since the departure of Longstreet's corps. A part of McLaws' division, of Longstreet's corps, moved from the rear of Mahone's division across the Appomattox three or four days ago and was said to be going to Early. There are now but two divisions of Hill's corps and the two divisions of Beauregard's command on this side of the Appomattox. The lieutenant is from the Thirteenth Alabama Regiment, Fry's brigade, Heth's division, and came in this morning about daylight. He is very well informed, and corroborates previous information of the enemy's position. The four divisions of the enemy lie from right to left as follows: Mahone's, Heth's, Hoke's, and Bushrod Johnson's. Two brigades of Mahone's division are in reserve. One

of informants saw General Lee yesterday at General Mahone's headquarters. The rumor that he had gone to the Valley is unfounded. They report that a large force of cavalry marched through Petersburg yesterday morning going north, supposed to Early.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Forwarded for Lieutenant-General Grant's information.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—11 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Orders have been given for the withdrawal of the Fifth Corps and the occupation of the lines of the Ninth and Eighteenth Corps. The Fifth will be held in reserve for contingencies. No further intelligence has been received from signal officers that has not been sent you, except that between 5 and 6 p. m. the officer on the plank road saw a small body of cavalry, with wagons and ambulances, moving northward along the Weldon railroad.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Five deserters from Finegan's (Florida) brigade, who came in this morning, report that last night Mahone's and Wilcox's old brigades, of Mahone's division, were taken from the trenches and moved to the rear, where they are now lying in reserve for the balance of the division. They say that the enemy are apprehensive that we are about blowing up a fort of theirs opposite our Fort Hell, and they think the movement last night was made preparatory to an expected attack by us at that point. They say that yesterday's Richmond papers reported that Admiral Farragut had taken Mobile, and that a strong column of our troops were marching into the heart of the country from that point. They say it has for some time past been reported in their camps that Longstreet has gone to the Valley.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

GIBBON'S HOUSE STATION, *August 14, 1864—7 a. m.*

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Nothing unusual visible in the enemy's line this morning. Roads west and southwest of the city inclosed by fog.

A. C. JORDAN.

PLANK ROAD STATION, *August 14, 1864.*

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Unusually quiet within the enemy's lines this morning. No change of camps visible.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864.

Captain FISHER:

A single party of enemy at work on old line to right of Gregory's house; otherwise all quiet.

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded; it is from an officer on Warren's front.

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

AUGUST 14, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Captain FISHER:

A small force of enemy are moving to the left in the direction of the cannonade. They are moving about opposite Lieutenant Duff's station and evidently come from the camps nearly opposite his station. They carry knapsacks, &c. I have seen only about 100 in motion.

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

AUGUST 14, 1864.

Major FISHER:

The enemy's signal officer reports that the camps to the left of Cobb's have disappeared.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following evening report from the Plank Road Station:

Two hundred cavalry and led horses and five wagons moved to our right on line of Weldon railroad between 5 and 5.40 p. m., apparently the rear of a stronger force, as the rain prevented a view of that line between 4.20 and 5 p. m. Fatigue party of 200 men with picks and spades came from our extreme left at 6 p. m., moving toward Petersburg; these men were, I think, working on some fortifications near the Weldon railroad, but behind the woods and farther south than we can see.

FULTON.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
McCann's House, August 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on my lines. At a point two miles from my right the enemy has advanced his lines about sixty rods.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. LEWIS,
Colonel Third New York Cavalry, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—5 a. m.

General GRANT:

At this moment not more than half of the troops have landed from the steamers. We have been working all night. It will be 9 o'clock before all of the corps are disembarked. The cavalry are across. I ordered General Birney to attack at daylight, but I have since ordered him to defer it until we are ready here unless he has commenced it. I have not heard his firing yet.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 14, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

GENERAL: General Birney has driven in the enemy's pickets, capturing, he says, about 100. I have sent to have them questioned. Two of my divisions are now advancing. General Birney's present line is the Kingsland road. He will advance with my troops.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 14, 1864—8.25 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

GENERAL: I telegraphed you at 5 a. m., but I am informed that one mile and a half of the telegraph line was knocked down last night. My telegram was to the effect that not more than one-half of my troops were disembarked at that hour (5 a. m.) and that I had directed General Birney to suspend his attack until I sent him further orders. At this hour two divisions are disembarked and about one-half of the third.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding Second Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—3.20 p. m.

General GRANT:

General Barlow attacked the enemy's line on the Central road; took the first line of rifle-pits, driving the enemy out, but failed to take the second and third lines, though attempting it twice. He is now about to try it again, and thinks he will succeed. The troops are not behaving steadily to-day. A great many are straggling and sunstruck. The loss in officers has been heavy. The enemy's force did not appear large. The point referred to is about a mile up the Central road from the New Market road.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 14, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Barlow has made another attack upon the enemy and has been repulsed with some loss. The enemy are massing pretty heavily to their left, and I rather anticipate an attack upon General Barlow. General Birney just reported to me that he has captured six pieces and two mortars. I have ordered all my skirmishers to advance on my left when the enemy commenced massing on my right, including those of General Birney.

Very respectfully,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

CITY POINT, *August 14, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

Major-General HANCOCK:

No movement of troops from Petersburg has been observed until this evening. A body, supposed to be about a division, now seems to be moving; so reported by signal officer.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—12.45 p. m. (Received 2.45 p. m.)

General MEADE:

The command has taken a few prisoners from each of eleven different regiments to-day; all, without an exception, so far as ascertained, of Field's division, representing four or five of his brigades. A part of my force is now moving over on the Central road, holding the New Market road. General Birney occupies the Kingsland road, and will shortly try to seize the New Market road on his front. I was delayed materially this morning by the transports not being able to get the troops off until 9 o'clock. Two regiments not arrived yet. General Grant has been here.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

General Birney has called upon me for transportation for six guns and two mortars, captured by him this evening. I think there is no doubt but they will be gotten off after dark to-night. General Barlow did not attack the enemy's left, which was refused, but attacked a salient of their line. He had a persistent fight; although he did not carry it he held the ground passed over. The attack by General Barlow was not made in sufficient force, but the troops did not fight with their accustomed vigor. Owing to the excessive heat, large numbers straggled from ranks. The loss was considerable. The troops saved their honor by not losing their killed and wounded. Gregg reports the Charles City road cut up by the enemy's intrenchments, the advance of which he carried. They were occupied by Hampton's Legion. The lines were thinly held, but were re-enforced while Barlow was attacking.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

P. S.—I shall set Birney at work in the morning as General Grant suggested.

W. S. H.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Your several telegrams received. I am glad to hear of Birney's success, and sympathize with Barlow in his losses. Nothing new has occurred in my front to-day till 5 p. m., when the signal officer at Fifth Corps headquarters reported the movement of a column of infantry northward.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

SIGNAL STATION, *August 14, 1864.* (Received 2.40 p. m.)

General HANCOCK:

The enemy has just been closing up to his left in the line of breastworks on the cleared hill in General Mott's front. The works appear now to be well filled.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864.

The following movements of troops of this command are ordered: During the night Major-General Birney, Tenth Corps, will move his command from its present position to the vicinity of these headquarters by such route as he may select. It is required that the entire command be massed out of sight of the enemy in its new position by 3 a. m. of the 15th. As soon after daylight on the 15th as practicable division commanders will hold their present lines by a strong line of skirmishers, well supported, and will mass the remainder of their commands in readiness to support their own lines or move to the support of others. General Birney will not relieve his skirmish line now con-

nected with the left of the Second Corps. The Third Division will be massed opposite the right of its picket-line, the Second Division opposite its centre, and the First Division near the junction of New Market and Central roads. At 6 a. m. Major-General Birney, with his command, will move out on the Central road, and turn the enemy's left flank, if possible. If this is not found practicable, and General Birney considers the chances favorable for a successful assault, he will attack the enemy's position with his whole force. If he succeeds in breaking the line he will then direct his attack toward New Market, and will be supported by the Second Corps. The cavalry, under General Gregg, will cover the right flank and rear during these operations.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 13 [14 ?], 1864—5.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER:

I attacked with a strong brigade of Second Division, and was repulsed with considerable loss. If I retain the hill, which we took to-day, I have not enough troops to have a continuous line of battle from the point occupied by General Miles' brigade (which I think it important to hold) and the point on my extreme right. I think I have not troops enough to occupy so extended a line, and that I should draw it in, giving up the hill we took.

Respectfully,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 14, 1864—10.40 a. m.

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that after establishing your skirmish line you place your division as follows: One strong regiment to hold the houses and vicinity on the New Market and Malvern Hill road; the remainder of your command massed near the cross-roads in rear of your line (at the intersection of the New Market and Malvern Hill road with the cross-roads connecting this road with the New Market and Long Bridge road), prepared to move to the support of General Barlow. One brigade of your division will probably be required to relieve the left brigade (General Miles') of the First Division, and you will send a staff officer to General Barlow to ascertain the position of this brigade.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—7 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Shall I take in my picket-line on left of the plank road?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Draw in all the pickets you do not consider necessary for your immediate security.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864. (Received 9 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report all quiet in my front during the night. Five deserters from Florida brigade were received this morning, and are on the way to army headquarters.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The commanding general directs me to say that upon the happening of the contingency referred to last night the whole of the Fifth Corps will be withdrawn from the trenches and directed against the enemy's right flank beyond the Weldon railroad. General Ord will extend his left to the vicinity of Burnside's mine, and the Ninth Corps will occupy the remainder of the army front as far as the large redoubt on the plank road. A dispatch has been received from Hancock, dated 5 a. m., stating that all his troops would not be disembarked much before 9 a. m., half only being ashore then. The cavalry was all over. Nothing further since.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 14, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have here an officer, Second Lieutenant Smith, Thirteenth Alabama, Heth's division. He came in last night. Heth's division is next to Beauregard's, on his left, and right of Heth's extends across the plank road; next comes Mahone's, and his right does not extend to within half a mile of the Weldon railroad. Longstreet's corps has gone to the Valley and thinks he is in command. Lee is here. Lieutenant Smith saw him yesterday. Lieutenant Smith says Heth's and Mahone's, as well as Beauregard's troops, were here the morning the mine was sprung. Heth's division got north of James River the day after the four pieces of artillery were captured by Hancock, and returned back here the

night before the mine blew up, traveling both ways by cars. I suggest that this officer, Lieut. Henry B. Smith, be detained to place his evidence before the Court of Inquiry, of which General Hancock is president.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Major-General Parke, commanding Ninth Corps, is directed to relieve your corps to-night as soon as practicable from the intrenchments it now holds. Upon being relieved you will establish your corps in rear of its present position, in such manner that you can readily support the troops in your front or on the right or move to operate on the enemy's right flank. You will be prepared to move at very brief notice. General Hunt is directed to furnish any additional artillery required by the Ninth Corps for the batteries you vacate, as you will take your field artillery with you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR No. 102.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864.

As soon as relieved by the troops of the Ninth Corps, division commanders will assemble their men as near to their own headquarters as may be convenient, and be prepared to move at short notice in any direction.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance transpired on my line during the night. My troops have been very watchful. No movements of the enemy have been observed.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 37. } HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 14, 1864.

I. By virtue of seniority of rank the undersigned assumes command of the Ninth Army Corps.

II. The following-named officers are announced as temporarily attached to the staff of the Ninth Army Corps: Lieut. Col. R. C.

Mitchell, acting assistant inspector-general; Capt. Robert A. Hutchins, assistant adjutant-general.

III. Capt. George W. Gowan is announced as aide-de-camp, staff of the commanding general.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—8.10 p. m.

Major-General PARKE:

General Ord is directed to extend his left and relieve your corps of nearly one-half of the front it now occupies. The commanding general directs that you relieve the Fifth Corps of the intrenchments it now occupies and hold the front from Ord's left to and including the large redoubt on the plank road and the batteries in that vicinity, if they are now held by the Ninth Corps. As the Fifth Corps will take with it all its field artillery, you will call on General Hunt, chief of artillery, for any additional field pieces you may require for the batteries vacated by the Fifth Corps. The commanding general desires that these changes be made as soon as practicable.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

General Ord wishes to know the exact spot where his left will rest when he relieves one-half your line. Please designate it to him and also at the same time to these headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—9.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

As near as possible the line to be relieved by the Eighteenth Corps will extend to General Potter's left at a point nearly opposite the mine. The troops to be relieved are those portions of Potter's and White's (lately Ledlie's) divisions, which are now in the line.

J. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

(Same to Major-General Ord.)

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division, Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to say to you that it is in contemplation to occupy the line of the Fifth Corps with the troops of the Ninth Corps. You will please hold the troops you have in

reserve in readiness to move into the three redoubts without delay if ordered. The general also desires that you see General Warren as soon as possible and find out the locality of his redoubts, the avenues to them, and the necessary dispositions to be made in occupying them.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. V. RICHARDS,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—5 p. m.

General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: The enemy are moving very rapidly out of their pits to our right, scattering, however, and I do not think they have a large force. The right of their line looks very weak at present. I think they are trying to concentrate on General Barlow. I advise you, therefore, to have your cavalry vedettes well out. If everything is quiet to-night, General Birney will come over on this side and will extend our line to-morrow.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—6.20 p. m. (Received 7 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding:

GENERAL: We drove the Legion out of the rifle-pits on the Charles City road this evening. The cavalry did not fall back toward Richmond but moved north of the Charles City road. The distance from this point (where I have a brigade in reserve) to the point held on the Charles City road is about five miles. I will connect across with General Barlow and have men posted on all the roads.

Yours, respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding:

GENERAL: I sent you a dispatch to the effect that the enemy occupied the old rifle-pits of '62 on the Charles City road, but that this p. m. I drove them out. This, near Fisher's. Search was everywhere made, but no water could be found in that vicinity for horses. My horses have not been watered since last night, but I can get a little near the New Market road.

Yours, respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 14, 1864—8 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Major-General Hancock has your dispatch, and directs me to say that if it is necessary to concentrate your command on account of water to do so. You can advance again early in the morning.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. G. MITCHELL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 14, 1864.

General GREGG:

If you are out of forage to-morrow morning you had better send for it, for we may be here for several days.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—My headquarters to-night will be where General Sheridan's were the other time we were over here.

W. S. H.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 14, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

General Meade has been directed to watch closely, and if present demonstration north of James River should force the enemy to weaken his lines at Petersburg, so that advantage can be taken of it, do so without waiting for further instructions. In such case he has been authorized to call on the Eighteenth Corps for co-operation or assistance. Please instruct General Ord that in case of operations against Petersburg he will receive orders from General Meade.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

(Copy to Ord.)

JONES' NECK, *August 14, 1864—4.45 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I inclose the notes just received from Colonel Dandy. He seems to have joined Hancock nearly. Birney says he is forming his line for the night.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

AUGUST 14, 1864.

General FOSTER:

SIR: I have passed through the woods and marched a quarter of a mile beyond, and am trying to communicate with General Hancock; have not done so as yet. Enemy's main works are in sight. My men are nearly exhausted and I am resting them.

I am, sir,

G. B. DANDY,
Colonel 100th New York Volunteers.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

AUGUST 14, 1864.

General FOSTER:

SIR: I cannot find General Hancock. There is one of his regiments supporting a battery in an earth-work near the houses. We occasionally get a shot from the enemy's sharpshooters and are in sight of their works. I have crossed a road which I am told is the New Market road, but I do not know. Both myself and men are very much exhausted, but are getting rested. I shall throw a line of skirmishers out to feel the enemy's sharpshooters and in the direction to the right of his works.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

G. B. DANDY,
Colonel 100th New York Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—12.20 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

When will Kautz's regiment at Fort Powhatan be back? His force is so small that it is difficult to cover our left and rear without this regiment, so he reports, and this duty, owing to Gregg's absence, is very important. Can you not order it back to report to Kautz?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 14, 1864.

General MEADE:

I have ordered the regiment at Fort Powhatan to report back to Kautz.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 14, 1864.

Major LUDLOW,
Aide-de-Camp:

As the operations at Dutch Gap are being carried on under my personal supervision, you will remain at the Gap for the purpose of carrying out my directions, and all orders given by you will be under my direction and be obeyed accordingly.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

BERMUDA, *August 14, 1864.*

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

The steamer James S. Green has just arrived from Port Royal with three companies Twenty-ninth Connecticut—260 men, 11 officers—under command of Major Torrance. In accordance with orders the commanding officer has been directed to report to Major-General Birney's headquarters.

J. B. HOWARD,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—a. m.

Col. H. L. ABBOT:

Four 10-inch mortars with a proper supply of ammunition are wanted in the battery near the Taylor house to control a battery of 32-pounder rifles just beyond the crest, distance from 1,200 to 1,500 yards. It would be well to get them out to-day ready to move; they may be ordered into battery to-night. I will inform you then whether to send them. Please answer.

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *August 14, 1864—8.45 a. m.*

Brigadier-General HUNT,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

Your dispatch in relation to mortars for Taylor house is received. Will make all preparations for forwarding to-night if you so direct.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery, Commanding Siege Train.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *August 14, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Brigadier-General HUNT,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

If the 10-inch mortars are ordered forward, I would earnestly request that they be put in the fourteen-gun battery where Pratt's 4½-inch guns were. The range is essentially the same. The approach to this battery is very good, and to the old battery very bad, a matter of great importance in supplying 10-inch ammunition on account of its great weight; and, moreover, this battery is well made and the old battery very ill constructed, constantly caving under mortar fire.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT:

It is not probable that the 10-inch mortars will be ordered up to-night. When they do come they are to go into the fourteen-gun battery near the Taylor house.

H. J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *August 14, 1864.*

Captain EDSON,
Ordnance Officer, Fort Monroe, Va.:

I am out of my supply of Coehorn mortar shells and the rebels are taking advantage of it. Please send me any shells and wooden plugs which you can possibly procure, on the mail boat, telegraphing me when they start. I don't care for prepared ammunition. Time is very important.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery, Commanding Siege Train.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *August 14, 1864.*

Brigadier-General RAMSAY,
Chief of Ordnance, U. S. Army,
Winder's Building, Washington, D. C.:

I have sixteen Coehorn mortars in position and not a shell in depot for them. The rebels keep up a constant mortar fire on us. I don't care for prepared ammunition; all I want are shells, fuse-plugs, and paper fuses. These must be received very shortly or the army will suffer. I wrote on 15th ultimo, and telegraphed on 19th ultimo and 11th instant for a large supply. Please inform me at once whether I am to be supplied. Please also send 2,000 Parrott time-fuse plugs for siege guns.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery, Commanding Siege Train.

[AUGUST 14, 1864, 7.15 a. m.—For Birney to Butler, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 677.]

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Deep Bottom, August 14, 1864—7.40 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department:

General Terry has captured 150 prisoners and is advancing.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—10.30 a. m.

[Major-General BUTLER:]

GENERAL: I am at the signal station. Matters are quiet in my front except from sharpshooters.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

AUGUST 14, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General BIRNEY:

General Grant informs me, as he has you, that he thinks that it will be impolitic to try and carry the point in your front; also that the road is so blocked that it will be nearly impossible, for an hour, to pass

troops to you. I have taken therefore the liberty to halt the column now filing past your late headquarters. Can we not get out better by the head of Three-Mile Creek; of course, this is but a suggestion, not an order, as you are under Hancock's orders. I will order forward the column as soon as the officer who takes this returns, if you desire it.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 14, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General BIRNEY:

The only dispatch received for you was that the junction of Four-Mile Creek and New Market Creek* was the position he desired you to take. I replied to General Hancock that you understood it and was about to make the advance if practicable. The dispatch of General Hancock was received at 3 o'clock, dated 1.15 p. m.

B. F. BUTLER.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 14, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

Dispatch received.† All honor to the brave Tenth Corps. These six guns and the two mortars will make a gap in the enemy's lines by which I trust you will go through. You have done more than was expected of you by the lieutenant-general.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—1 p. m.

Captain NICHOLS,
U. S. Navy:

CAPTAIN: If you can take such a position as will enable you to shell the junction of the Kingsland and Varina roads, I shall be obliged if you will do it. General Hancock says you have the range.

Respectfully, &c.,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—12.35 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Which junction on the New Market road do you refer to in your note?

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

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* So in original, but see Walker to Birney, 1.15 p. m., p. 185, where it reads New Market road.

† See 5.05 p. m., Part I, p. 677.

AUGUST 14, 1864—1.15 p. m.

General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: The junction of Four-Mile Creek with the New Market road is the point to which the major-general commanding referred in a previous dispatch.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

3 P. M.

General Birney got dispatch, and has advanced to take the point referred to in this dispatch.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

GENERAL BIRNEY'S SIGNAL STATION,
August 14, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

General Birney, who is across the creek, will push for the New Market road at once. Apparently General Birney has troops within a few hundred yards of New Market.

COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—5.25 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I am connecting with the battery of Second Corps and am establishing picket-line. I will have it complete. As I am now sharply engaged in trying to save the guns captured I may have to shorten my line. I have sent two staff officers to report progress.

Yours, truly,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—5.40 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

You are mistaken in supposing that the enemy are withdrawing from my front. They are in force on my whole front, and with a heavy artillery fire. They are plainly to be seen. I have ordered General Terry to advance his skirmishers at once, and connect closely with the Second Corps picket-line.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Deep Bottom, August 14, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding:

GENERAL: I will move at 9 o'clock by the rear of Mott and Dandy, and will bivouac on some spot without you desire me to take a special position before daylight. I am at Foster's headquarters until my batteries, trains, &c., cross the bridge. I will leave a garrison here. My six guns have diminished to four, but increased by two 8-inch howitzers. I will see you before morning.

Your obedient servant,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864.

General Terry with his command will attack the enemy in position behind Four-Mile Creek promptly at daybreak. If successful he will advance along the New Market and Kingsland road to the junction of the Varina road; then along the Varina road to the Mill road, securing, if possible, the cross-roads at Osborne's old turnpike. Brig. Gen. William Birney will leave two regiments of his colored troops in the intrenchments at Deep Bottom, and with the remainder of his command will be prepared to support General Terry. General Birney will relieve General Foster's command in Deep Bottom.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Headquarters' spring wagons may accompany the headquarters to which they belong.

MARCHING ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—7.20 p. m.

This command will march promptly at 9 p. m. to the rear of the position of the Second Corps, bivouacking at a spot to be indicated by Captain Briscoe, aide-de-camp. The command of Colonel Dandy will remain in its present position with its pickets out. The pickets of the corps will be withdrawn at 1 a. m. under directions of the corps officer of the day. They will fall back on the two roads to the intrenchments at the pontoon bridge. Ammunition trains and batteries and all wagons and ambulances will cross at the pontoon near General Foster's and recross at the lower bridge; park for the night and be harnessed at daylight. Commanding officers should at once send out patrols for stragglers who fill the woods with fires and tents. Brigadier-General Birney will detail two regiments, and a competent officer to command them, to garrison and hold the fortifications at Deep Bottom. The First Connecticut Battery will report to that commanding officer; the detachment of New York Mounted Rifles will also report to him.

By command of Major-General Birney:

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—6 a. m.

Brigadier-General TERRY,
Commanding First Division:

You will continue the attack, holding your troops well in hand. You will call on Brigadier-General Birney for such aid as you may need.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—8.50 a. m.

Brigadier-General TERRY:

Generals Barlow and Mott, commanding divisions of Second Corps, are advancing on your right. Have not as yet met the enemy.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—2.55 p. m.

Brigadier-General TERRY:

The major-general commanding desires that you will inform him as soon as you reach the New Market road, and also whether the creek is fordable.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—5.10 p. m.

Brigadier-General TERRY:

The general commanding directs that every precaution be taken to secure the guns captured. He regards it as highly important that they be brought off, even if the caissons are left behind.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—6.45 a. m.

Brigadier-General BIRNEY:

Colonel Osborn's brigade has been ordered to take position on the left near the Grover house.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—12.50 p. m.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM BIRNEY:

The major-general commanding directs that you order Colonel Osborn to occupy the crossing of the Kingsland and Varina roads. A staff officer has been sent to conduct him to the point.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. William Birney will detail a colonel of his command for corps-officer of the day to report at once at these headquarters. General Birney will cause such a distribution to be made of the force left in the intrenchments as best to provide for the safety of the position, paying especial attention to the left of the line. He is authorized to reduce the force to one regiment.

By order of Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—5.30 p. m.

[General TERRY:]

Advance your skirmishers at once, and make close connection with the picket-line of the Second Corps. You will make a decided demonstration.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864.

Brigadier-General TERRY,
Commanding First Division:

It is reported by an officer of General Foster's staff that there is a battery at the Grover house unsupported.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864. (Received 3.40 p. m.)

General TURNER:

The detachment of the Twenty-ninth Connecticut Volunteers will report to Brigadier-General Turner, commanding line of intrenchments, who will place them upon the line.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864.

Major DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

How many colored regiments are there on the left of the line?

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER:

There are five colored regiments this side of the Appomattox.

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864.

Major DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have the honor to request that the commanding officers of the colored regiments on the left be ordered to report to me, in order that I may assign them to positions on the line, if necessary.

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, August 14, 1864.

I. Colonel Curtis' line will extend from the river to Battery No. 5, and include the present picket-line occupied by his brigade.

II. Lieutenant-Colonel Washburn, Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, will report for duty to Colonel Curtis with his command without delay.

By order of Brigadier-General Turner:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Capt., Forty-seventh New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 14, 1864.

Col. SAMUEL A. DUNCAN,
Comdg. Colored Regiments this side of Appomattox:

You will report in person to Brig. Gen. J. W. Turner, at present in command of the defenses on this line, and dispose of your troops in accordance with his directions until further orders.

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 14, 1864.

General O. S. FERRY,
Spring Hill:

GENERAL: You will direct the command sent over from Spring Hill to the line of defense to report to Brig. Gen. John W. Turner, commanding defenses, &c.

By command of Major-General Butler:

GEO. A. KENSEL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

[AUGUST 14, 1864.]

General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

General Grant telegraphs me that General Meade has been directed to watch closely, and if operations on the north side of the James force the enemy to weaken his lines at Petersburg to take advantage of it without further instructions. In that case General Meade has been authorized to call upon the Eighteenth Corps for co-operation, and you will receive orders from him.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—7.45 a. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that if he finds the enemy's intrenchments very thinly held, in consequence of troops being sent across the James to meet the movement of General Hancock, he will withdraw the whole of the Fifth Corps from the intrenchments. He desires to know whether you will be able in such event to extend to your left and occupy any part of the line now held by the Ninth Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have now only one man to the yard on my line. The enemy's line is reported two ranks deep, and I do not deem it advisable, while their line is so heavy, to reduce mine. All my reserves are working on redoubts.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—8.20 a. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

The major-general commanding requests me to say that he has ceased working on his intrenchments to-day. In the event contemplated of withdrawing the Fifth Corps from the intrenchments and directing it against the enemy's right flank, could your reserves now working on the redoubts be used in extending your line? It is only in the event of the enemy holding the line of their intrenchments thinly that such operation would be undertaken with the Fifth Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

By ceasing work I could extend my line as far as Burnside's mine and not put the colored troops in the trenches.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have received orders in case of a movement to co-operate with the Army of the Potomac, and have the honor to report accordingly.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—5.15 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Shall I occupy part of Burnside's trenches to-night? I can by using all my reserve and stretching take half of Burnside's ground, and he can then by similar means take whole of Warren's. A deserter, in this a. m., states that Lee's forces all gone north of Richmond, and he heard that one division, probably of Beauregard's, left yesterday and the day before.

ORD.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

Your dispatch received. The information received is not yet sufficient to enable the commanding general to determine upon the arrangements to be carried out to-night. Will let you know as soon as possible.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

The proposed extension of your corps and that of the Ninth, having been sanctioned by Lieutenant-General Grant, the major-general commanding directs that you relieve the Ninth Corps from as much of their line as you can hold in the manner heretofore indicated. Should you require any additional field artillery to supply the place of that taken out of battery by the Ninth Corps, call on General Hunt, chief of artillery, Army of the Potomac, who is directed to answer your requisitions. The changes should be made as soon as practicable.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—8.20 p. m.

General A. A. HUMPHREYS:

Will the general commanding give distinct orders to General Burnside so that I can know certainly what part of his front I am to occupy and can give definite orders on the subject. I can take half of it, but do not know how much that is, or to what place it will take me.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—9.10 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

The major-general commanding requests that you will occupy one-half of the front of the Ninth Corps. I have telegraphed General Parke that you will do so, and will at once request him to designate the exact spot where your left will rest under that arrangement. I take it to be where the small marsh or run that you crossed in going to the mine intersects our intrenchments.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864—9.45 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have five light batteries—two rifle and two 12-pounders, not under cover—which can be moved to any place at once. Would it not be well to keep the batteries of the Ninth and Fifth Corps now behind parapets where they are, and take for the use of the Fifth batteries of one corps which are not in place or under cover, because shifting the batteries in place would attract the attention of the enemy?

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—10.25 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

The commanding general prefers the Fifth Corps to have its own batteries, and they can probably be got out without attracting notice. It is understood that the artillery of the Ninth Corps that will probably be removed can also be taken out without being observed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. B. CARR:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to say that in case it should rain severely, and the ravine in which our troops are encamped should become too wet for occupancy, you will remove them above the railroad bridge to the position now occupied by some of the troops of General Ames, who has been directed to make room for you.

Very respectfully,

THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1864—12.20 a. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

The commanding general has telegraphed General Butler to send back your regiment near Powhatan, and has requested Lieutenant-General Grant to have the cattle herd drawn in nearer to City Point. You must make the best disposition you can of your force, keeping it as much concentrated as possible. You may have to move to-morrow. The enemy have but one division of cavalry on this side the Appomattox.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 15, 1864—9 p. m.*
(Received 6.30 a. m. 17th.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.

If there is any danger of an uprising in the North to resist the draft or for any other purpose our loyal Governors ought to organize the militia at once to resist it. If we are to draw troops from the field to keep the loyal States in harness it will prove difficult to suppress the rebellion in the disloyal States. My withdrawal now from the James River would insure the defeat of Sherman. Twenty thousand men sent to him at this time would destroy the greater part of Hood's

army, and leave us men wherever required. General Heintzelman can get from the Governors of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois a militia organization that will deter the discontented from committing any overt act. I hope the President will call on Governors of States to organize thoroughly to preserve the peace until after the election.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 15, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

All quiet on the lines. The Fifth Corps in reserve on the left, ready for movement. No indications of any movement on enemy's part, but seen that camps previously reported taken up are this morning reoccupied. Dispatch from signal officer sent herewith.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following reports just received:

PLANK ROAD STATION,
August 15, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Atmosphere clear. Camps reported reoccupied this a. m.; contain about two brigades.

FULTON,
Sergeant.

FIFTH CORPS STATION,
August 15, 1864—9.40 a. m.

No change visible. A small fatigue party of enemy in first line to right of Chimneys. Squads of enemy on parapet seem to watch our line very attentively.

WARTS,
Lieutenant.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant.
By order:

W. S. STRYKER,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 15, 1864—8.30 p. m.*
(Received 6.15 a. m. 17th.)

Col. W. HOFFMAN,
Commissary-General of Prisoners:

You need not move any more prisoners from Point Lookout so long as you deem them safe there.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *August 15, 1864.*

General WILLIAMS:

I am informed by Colonel Batchelder that he has been appointed chief quartermaster of the Army of the Potomac. It struck me with surprise, inasmuch as I had calculated on being attached to your army so long as the general commanding wished my services, and inasmuch as I had not expected any change. I had in no manner sought for the change. I had served under General Meade with great pride and cheerfulness to myself, and I hoped to his satisfaction. I sincerely wish him and the Army of the Potomac the greatest possible success.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 15, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General R. INGALLS,
City Point:

Your dispatch of this date in relation to the assignment of Lieutenant-Colonel Batchelder as chief quartermaster of the Army of the Potomac has been laid before the commanding general. The commanding general has received no official information touching the status of yourself and Colonel Batchelder, as defined in the orders that were issued at the time you left for City Point to assume the duties of chief quartermaster of the armies operating against Richmond, in addition to those of chief quartermaster of the Army of the Potomac, other than is contained in a letter Colonel Batchelder has recently received from the War Department, assigning him to duty as chief quartermaster of the Army of the Potomac. The action of the War Department has been taken without the knowledge of the commanding general, and without any reference of the matter to him, and he supposes the object of the assignment to be to give Colonel Batchelder the rank and pay of colonel during your temporary absence from these headquarters. I am directed to add that you have at all times discharged the duties of chief quartermaster of this army to the entire satisfaction of the commanding general, and that if you have been for the time being transferred to another sphere of duty the transfer has been made without any action on his part.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *August 15, 1864.*
(Received 1 a. m. 16th.)

JOHN C. BABCOCK:

We have here five citizens, eleven refugees, and twenty-four prisoners of war taken to-day and yesterday by Second Corps. The latter are mainly from Law's and Anderson's brigades, of Field's division, the whole of which is in front of our lines at Deep Bottom. They do not know of any other infantry being there when they were taken, but know of two brigades of Wilcox's division being at Chaffin's farm three days ago. Wickham's brigade of cavalry and perhaps the most of Fitz Lee's division crossed to the north side of the James night before last.

Gary's brigade (cavalry) is also there. Refugees left Richmond Saturday evening, and say that infantry and cavalry went to Early Thursday and Friday nights last. This is certain, and I think the infantry was Wilcox's division or a part of it, though one heard General Heth's name mentioned. The prisoners taken by the Tenth Corps (seven) are also from Field's division.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

SIGNAL STATION AT RICKETTS' BATTERY,
August 15, 1864—10 a. m.

Captain TAYLOR,
Signal Officer:

The enemy have been shelling our skirmish line on this front. A column of about 300 of the enemy's infantry have just passed behind their intrenchments moving to the right (our right) entering the woods and preventing further observation. Another line of about 200 have moved up from the left and are now lying behind their works.

NEEL,
Signal Officer.

STATION NEAR GIBBON'S HOUSE,
August 15, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

About 1,500 infantry moved into town from the southwest about 2.45 this p. m., accompanied by two wagons. Owing to fog over the city could not trace them out. There was some dust seen afterward in streets, but the air was too thick for observation.

A. C. JORDAN.

JORDAN'S HOUSE STATION,
August 15, 1864—5 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

All quiet on this front. The battery reported August 6 to be in rear of Whitehead's is not visible to-day. I send the following rebel message from 114:

Colonel BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

One large full regiment of ten companies drilling in open space to our left of Cobb's. One gun-boat above pontoon and one off Point of Rocks. There is no camp in open space to our left of Cobb's; there is not a tent visible. The shelter erected lately for horses is in a dilapidated condition.

ROONEY,
Sergeant.

T. R. CLARK,
Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 15, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch received from the plank road station:

Camps re-established north-northwest from station, but to what extent I can't tell, as the atmosphere is unfavorable for observation. All quiet.

FULTON.

He refers to the camps that disappeared the night after the Second Corps moved.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 74. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, August 15, 1864.

* * * * * * *

II. A board of officers is hereby appointed to meet at City Point, on Tuesday, the 16th day of August, 1864, to investigate the cause and circumstances attending the explosion of ordnance stores at City Point, Va., on the 9th instant. Detail for the board: Lieut. Col. Horace Porter, aide-de-camp; Capt. D. D. Wiley, commissary of subsistence; Capt. H. B. Blood, assistant quartermaster.

* * * * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I sent in this morning about twenty prisoners taken by the cavalry, including eleven refugees. These refugees left Richmond on Saturday night. They say a large number of cavalry went north, and many other troops, but they do not know definitely what force. I have ordered them sent to City Point, where they can be questioned. A prisoner was captured this morning from the Thirteenth South Carolina, which makes the second man captured from McGowan's brigade, being of different regiments. This latter man says that four brigades of Wilcox's division are in front of General Foster's old position. I have no positive evidence of the fact. General Birney, with a part of General Mott's division, is feeling for the enemy's left, or a place where we can attack. If we find such a place I shall attack with heavy force in the hope of clearing them out.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864. (Received 1.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Birney's captures yesterday were four 8-inch sea-coast howitzers; three of them are entirely removed and the fourth partly

taken off, but the trail is broken. I don't know that any more will be gotten off. General Gregg has found the enemy intrenched on the Charles City road at White's house. Their people came out of their intrenchments and attacked, but I do not think they have much strength there. I expect to feel along with my infantry to the Charles City Cross-Road, if I do not sooner find a place to attack.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Same to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864—1.30 p. m. (Received 3.20 p. m.)

General GRANT:

General Gregg says that the enemy are making a spirited attack upon him down the Charles City road. They drove him out of the intrenchments he took from them yesterday. He has taken a prisoner, who says that there was a large force of cavalry, with infantry, on that road this morning, six miles this side of Richmond. General Gregg thinks that Hampton has joined. We have no positive evidence of it. My brigade of infantry that went from the Central road to strike the Charles City road met the enemy very soon, supposed to be infantry, and repulsed them. Another brigade has been added to it, and General Birney will attack them very soon. A knapsack was fished up this morning during the cavalry fight marked Thirteenth Georgia, Wilcox's division, and also, I think, Hagan's [Hagood's] brigade.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Same to General Meade.)

CITY POINT, VA., *August 15, 1864—3.30 p. m.*

Major-General HANCOCK:

A boat to take your sick and wounded will be sent immediately. General Grant is on his way to your headquarters.

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

General GRANT:

I have just taken a staff officer of General Barringer, commanding brigade of cavalry in W. H. F. Lee's division. The command came over, I don't know in what strength, last night. Have also captured a private of Third Division Cavalry, and an officer of the Forty-eighth Alabama. I am sending some infantry to strike the Charles City road to take this cavalry in flank; am also sending some infantry to Gregg to the junction of the Charles City road with the Long Bridge. General Birney is also feeling around the enemy's right of where Barlow attacked yesterday.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 15, 1864. (Received 5.45 p. m.)

General GRANT:

A prisoner just sent in reports that his division of cavalry, W. H. F. Lee's, arrived here this morning, having left Reams' Station at 11 a. m. yesterday—Barringer's, Chambliss', and Dearing's brigades. We have forced the enemy back beyond the cross-roads on the Charles City road, but so far only to the intrenchments occupied by Gregg early this morning. The enemy's works appear well filled. General Birney is still operating between the Central and Charles City roads, and if he finds a weak place a strong attack will be made. I expect to hear of it before long.

W. S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Same to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your dispatches received. I am much obliged to you for the appointment of brigadier-general in the Regular Army. I am also obliged to you for being so anxious to-day, for I am not satisfied with our progress here.

W. S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Everything is quiet here. General Birney did not attack to-night, not having encountered the enemy's skirmishers until about dark. He lost thirty or forty men, the greater number colored, in his observations. I have ordered a movement on the Charles City road, under General Miles, at daylight. General Birney will also move toward the Central road at the same hour, prepared to make a heavy attack if possible. The cavalry will operate on the Charles City road and to the right. General Gregg captured a few prisoners this evening, all from W. H. F. Lee's division. I have no evidence indicating any greater strength than before.

W. S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864. (Received 11.20 p. m.)

Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

GENERAL: There is nothing new here. I am well out on the Charles City and Central roads. The day has been consumed in affairs with cavalry and in reconnaissance. To-morrow morning at daylight I hope to commence more serious work.

W. S HANCOCK,
Major-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

The following movements of troops of this command are ordered for to-morrow:

1. At 4 a. m. General Miles, with his brigade, will move out to the position held to-day by one of General Birney's brigades near the Charles City road, and make a reconnaissance of the enemy's position, attacking with his brigade, if in the opinion of General Miles the attack will succeed.

2. General Gregg, commanding cavalry division, will advance up the Charles City road at 4 a. m. and endeavor to turn the left of the enemy's position on that road, while General Miles is operating in front. General Gregg and General Miles will consult as to operations here. General Gregg will send a squadron to report at 4 a. m. directly to General Miles.

3. At daylight General Birney will continue the execution of the orders of yesterday to turn the enemy's left between the Central and Charles City roads if practicable, or, failing in this, to attack the enemy's line, if his reconnaissance gives a reasonable assurance of success.

4. General Mott, Third Division; General Barlow, First Division, and Colonel Smyth, Second Division, will hold their commands in readiness to move instantly to the support of their own lines or elsewhere. The troops must be kept in their camps. Their skirmishers must be kept active during the day and have the enemy in their front closely watched.

5. The men will be under arms and camp struck at daylight. Commanders will see that all wagons not allowed by existing orders are sent to the river during the night.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. G. MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that one of your brigades, either De Trobriand's or Madill's, be reported at once to Major-General Birney to form a part of his force during the operations of the day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

Colonel MCALLISTER:

The brigadier-general commanding directs that you put a regiment under a good commander into the point of woods nearest the bridgehead. The regiment will put out camp guards in the direction of Mal-

vern Hill and to the front. Our cavalry now covers the entire front, but the regiment is placed there to hold the woods if the cavalry should be driven in.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864. (Received 9.20 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in my front last night. My troops were relieved by Major-General Parke, commanding the Ninth Corps, last night and early this morning, General Potter relieving General Griffin's line and General Ferrero that of General Crawford.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 15, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The major-general commanding desires to know the position in which you have placed your troops.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 15, 1864. (Received 10.10 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Cutler's division is near General Hancock's old headquarters; Griffin's is near his own headquarters. Ayres and Crawford are about on a line between the two, Cutler and Griffin.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 103.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

The corps being now in reserve, division commanders and the commander of the Artillery Brigade will hold their commands in readiness to move at very short notice.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General AYRES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires you to withdraw the Maryland Brigade back near your own headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 15, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding desires you to report the distribution you have made of your troops in the intrenchments now held by your corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864—12 m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Potter's (Second) division, 2,300 men, relieved General Griffin, and holds the line from right of line formerly held by Fifth Corps to the plank road. Eleven hundred men of General Ferrero's division (colored) occupy large redoubt, 250 men occupy redoubt south of Chieves' house, 250 in rear of Fort Tilton, and 200 in redoubt near large mortar battery. General White's division, 1,500 men, relieved General Crawford, and occupy the skirmish line extending from General Potter's left around in front of the two square redoubts. General Willcox, with one brigade, colored troops, holds the line formerly occupied by Ninth Corps as far to the right as the mine, where they join the Eighteenth Corps. Your dispatch of 10 a. m. just received on my return from the line.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. B. POTTER,
Commanding Second Division, Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Three batteries have reported to me this morning. I have ordered two—Dorsey's (Ohio) and Rhodes' (Rhode Island)—to report to you.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. ALBERT MONROE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

General POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The batteries sent you were not intended to be put in position unless they should be required. The heavy rain prevented Colonel Monroe visiting the line this evening, indicating to you the positions of the batteries on your front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

Capt. R. A. HUTCHINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that Colonel Humphrey's brigade relieved the brigade of General Hartranft during the night, connecting on the right with the Eighteenth Corps. Captain Roemer reports only few rebels seen on the line this morning. I shall keep vigilant watch during the day.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

AUGUST 15, 1864—10.40 a. m.

Captain HUTCHINS:

Captain Roemer having reported a material diminution of the rebels in our front, I sent Lieutenant Brackett to Roemer's battery with a glass. Lieutenant Brackett has just returned, and says he does not perceive any difference in the number usually visible. Colonel Humphrey, who went on the line last night after having been off a week, makes the same observation, so that I think reports of the rebel works being thinned out should be taken with caution.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

Capt. ROBERT A. HUTCHINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report less firing of every description than usual to-day in my front. The rain this afternoon damaged the breast-works somewhat, but they are being speedily repaired.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that General Ingalls will have forage at this point for your command to-day.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 15, 1864—8 a. m. (Received 9.15 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: We are getting along and driving the enemy on the Charles City road. I think my advance is within a mile of White's Tavern. I have the body of General Chambliss, killed a few minutes ago. I am having some loss, but not very considerable.

Yours, respectfully,
D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 15, 1864. (Received 1.15 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: The enemy are making a spirited advance, but are held by one of my brigades dismounted. I have two regiments at the intersection of the Charles City, New Market, and Quaker roads. This force finds the enemy on the Charles City road in their front. I think Hampton's division of cavalry has arrived. A prisoner, whom I forwarded, told me that a large force of cavalry, which he believed to be Hampton's, was on the Charles City road about six miles from Richmond, and that infantry was at the same point.

Yours, respectfully,
D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

General GREGG:

The following, just received from General Birney, is communicated for your information:

I have just returned from a reconnaissance. Have attacked the enemy's cavalry on the left of Gregg's brigade in flank and am driving them. Have ordered Avery's cavalry also to attack. I am driving them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

General GREGG,
Commanding, &c.:

General Hancock directs me to advise you that General Birney has sent a brigade, under conduct of Captain Briscoe, aide-de-camp, to try to strike the Charles City road from the Central. The major-general commanding has sent you a brigade of infantry, well commanded, to be followed by more if necessary.

Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

General GREGG,
Commanding Second Division Cavalry:

GENERAL: I wish you would be careful that the enemy do not deceive you with dismounted cavalry. If that brigade gets to the Charles City road I wish you would press forward so as to relieve them, as I wish General Birney to make an attack as soon as he can find a hole in their lines. I therefore desire that you should press the enemy well back on the Charles City road, looking out well at the same time for your right. I have since received your dispatch stating that your dismounted cavalry have the Charles City road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 15, 1864.

Colonel STEDMAN,
Commanding First Brigade:

COLONEL: The enemy's infantry have attacked Colonel Gregg's pickets in force. I send you this information for your guidance. The general has not yet returned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. TAYLOR,
Major and Division Inspector.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE,
August 15, 1864—2.10 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG:

GENERAL: A prisoner from W. H. Fitzhugh Lee's division just brought in. They crossed the James this morning at daylight. The Eighth and Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, in connection with the infantry, are driving them, and are now nearly to Deep Creek.

Very respectfully,

J. IRVIN GREGG,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

AUGUST 15, 1864—9 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

My pickets at Dutch Gap report trains running all night from Petersburg to a point just above them, and there stopping and whistling, probably at Chaffin's farm. Signal officer at Spring Hill reports two trains have passed from Petersburg and two toward Petersburg, the last loaded with commissary stores. At 9 a. m. a regiment of cavalry has just passed Junction toward Richmond. Birney reports that his six guns turn out to be four 8-inch howitzers; also that he is ordered to make an assault on the right of Hancock this morning. Pretty far round from left to right.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 15, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Did Birney secure the guns reported, or are they on ground that cannot be reached by either party?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

General GRANT:

The following is answer to my inquiry about guns taken by General Birney yesterday:

DEEP BOTTOM, *August 15, 1864.*

General BUTLER:

I learned from an artillery lieutenant at 11 a. m. to-day that three were secured and the fourth not, for want of carriage. This officer was sent by General Hancock to secure the fourth. None have been delivered to me. The enemy had re-established his picket-line and had shelled the woods in my front. I could not get the fourth gun without a fight.

WM. B. WOOSTER,
Colonel Twenty-ninth Connecticut Volunteers.

B. F. BUTLER.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864—1.50 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: I have just returned from a reconnaissance. Have attacked the enemy's cavalry on the left of Gregg's brigade in flank and am driving them. Have ordered Avery's cavalry also to attack. I am driving them.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864—2.10 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Do you desire me to mass and attack? I am apprehensive that if I attempt to envelop the enemy the force on my right and rear may take me in reverse.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

I am driving the enemy's skirmishers on my right toward Charles City Court-House road.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864—2.30 p. m.

[General HANCOCK:]

My brigade has advanced within half a mile of Charles City road, driving the enemy, which they report to be mounted infantry. I have ordered them to halt at Charles City Cross-Road and await orders. Avery covers their left. Have you any orders?

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Gregg at 3.15 p. m.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY:

GENERAL: I have sent Colonel Morgan to you to express my views. After you reach the Charles City road, if there is no engagement there, that brigade might be slowly withdrawn sufficiently to cover your right without being endangered, leaving the cavalry to protect the rear. I then wish you to continue your reconnaissance to the right of where Barlow attacked, to see if you can find a suitable place to attack, and, if so, before evening, I would like to make a strong attack and will give you more troops if necessary. It is important to make an advance or to ascertain that the enemy is in such force that we cannot, or to oblige them to re-enforce. You can be backed up as strongly as you wish. If you find a favorable point and want more men let me know. General Miles will now feel out to protect the right flank of that brigade which has gone to the front as well as your own right, and to attack the enemy if either are threatened.

Respectfully,

W. S. HANCOCK,
Major-General

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864—3.25 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Brigadier-General Birney is now moving with a brigade to attack to the right of my position, to be supported by all my force if necessary. When he drives the enemy to their line of works we can judge of the feasibility of an assault. My other division will move to the right and occupy the ground that he leaves, so that General Barlow must look out for his right. I may use the brigade of infantry that relieved Gregg from the attack.

Respectfully,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864—6.40 p. m. (Received 7.45.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

A reconnaissance in force sent out has met the enemy's skirmish line. As it is too far to my right and the woods too dense and close to favor

a night attack, I will postpone it until morning. I will make a vigorous one at daylight with your permission. We have driven the enemy's skirmishers back, but as yet have found no intrenchments.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864—3.55 p. m.

Captain BRISCOE:

Brigadier-General Birney is on the point of attacking on your left. If you are not pressed by the enemy move back and report to him. If there is any enemy in your immediate front attack them. You need have no fear for your left flank.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

Captain BRISCOE:

Bring back your command to the line.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864—1.10 p. m.

Major-General Hancock hopes we will be able to capture a few prisoners in order to get information. If any are taken, send them here immediately.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

Cover your line with your own skirmishers, and look out for both your flanks.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Division commanders will see that their lines are well picketed during the night and that the line is connected along its whole extent.

By order of Major-General Birney.

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. O. S. FERRY:

GENERAL: You can reduce the picket-line in front of Port Walthall seventy-five men and on Mill road twenty-five men. With this reduction can you do the picket duty with your force? I am unable to get any more white men and I do not like to send out colored. Over one-half of my force was on picket yesterday and last night.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully returned.
I can picket the Port Walthall and Mill road lines.

O. S. FERRY,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864—3.50 p. m.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM BIRNEY:

Make the movement heretofore indicated with as little delay as possible.

By order of Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DEEP BOTTOM, *August 15, 1864.*
(Received 1.30 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

I have the honor to report the arrival at this headquarters of Major Torrance with the remaining three companies of the Twenty-ninth Connecticut Volunteers.

W. B. WOOSTER,
Colonel Twenty-ninth Connecticut Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. B. CARR:

I am instructed by the major-general commanding to direct you to repair the railroad bridge, which has been damaged by the flood, so that troops can safely pass over. For this purpose you will make the necessary details.

Very respectfully,

THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., August 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina, Fort Monroe, Va.:

GENERAL: It is my impression that we can worry the blockade-runners a good deal by placing torpedoes in that channel that runs down the shore into Wilmington harbor. Lieutenant King, the engineer officer, has said he would bring the matter before you, and if he returns to this place, if you see no objection to it, I will have the torpedoes prepared. I would prefer to place them in position with the force we have, not calling upon the navy for any assistance. It is possible I do not judge correctly, but I have sometimes doubted whether these gentlemen who command the blockading vessels really wish that harbor closed. A great deal of money is made there in prize money.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 16, 1864.*
(Received 8 p. m. 18th.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

The fighting north of the river to-day has resulted favorably for us, so far as it has gone; but there have been no decisive results. The enemy have been driven back somewhat from their position of this morning, with a considerable loss in killed and wounded and about 400 prisoners left in our hands. Two brigadier-generals (Chambliss and Girardey) were killed and their bodies left in our hands. We also have quite a number of wounded prisoners. I have relieved the Fifth Corps from the trenches, and have it ready to march around Petersburg if the enemy can be induced to throw troops enough north of the James to justify it. Since moving north of the river our losses will probably reach near 1,000 in killed and wounded; very many, however, only slightly wounded, owing to so much of the fighting taking place in thick woods. The enemy have lost about as many that have fallen into our hands.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

No reports have been received from corps commanders or signal officers indicating any movement or change in the enemy's position in my front, except a part of the Ninth Corps, where it is reported the enemy have relieved the force in their trenches, but not diminished it. The appearance of Wright's brigade, Mahone's division, in front of Hancock, confirms the previous statement of deserters that on Saturday last two brigades of Mahone's division were withdrawn and placed in reserve in the rear.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The following just received from provost-marshal-general's department is forwarded:

We believe that two brigades, Wright's and Perrin's, of Mahone's division, moved from the enemy's extreme right day before yesterday at 2 p. m.; that the three remaining brigades of Mahone, with Heth's division and Beauregard's two divisions, are still in our front.

One of Kautz's men taken prisoner escaped from the enemy last night. He says he was on the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad between Petersburg and Swift Run when the two brigades of Mahone's division marched up and took the cars for a station near Drewry's Bluff.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 16, 1864—6.30 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

It seems from General Hancock's dispatches that a part of Hill's corps is north of the James. If the enemy reduce again to three divisions at Petersburg it will be advisable to move Warren on to the Weldon road at least, and farther if it should then appear advisable. The enemy would necessarily have to keep a good part of Beauregard's force to confront the two corps that would still be left.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Until this p. m. there were no indications of movements. I reported this morning that deserters who came in last night said we had in our front three brigades of Mahone's division and all of Heth's division, both of Hill's corps, besides Beauregard's forces. The two remaining brigades of Mahone, Wright and Perrin, they said, had been withdrawn and were in the rear. Hancock has taken prisoners from Wright, and I have no doubt Perrin is also in his front, but that is all of Hill that has left us as far as we know. Wilcox's division, of Hill's, is and has been there for some time. I send a report* from the signal station on the plank road, just received, which would seem to indicate a further movement, though it is very indefinite. If you think it advisable on this information to move Warren, I will give him orders to move at early daylight, or before, and to attack at the lead-works or where the Weldon railroad enters the line of works. I do not think myself he will have much chance of success unless we get more definite information of the enemy having sent away more troops than we have now.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* See Fulton to Fisher, 7.20 p. m., p. 214.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 16, 1864—10 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

From here it sounds as if there was heavy musketry firing on your front. Is it so? Is it not probable that the movement of the enemy toward his right this evening was in anticipation of a flank movement by you?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 16, 1864—10.15 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

Your dispatch of 7.45 just received. I would not move Warren until we are assured of further movements of the enemy. I think the changes reported by the signal officer on the plank road either indicate an intention to attack you or is in anticipation of a flank movement to our left.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

There is no musketry firing on my front, except the usual picket-firing. The movement of the enemy reported is, I think, undoubtedly a weakening of his extreme right, probably with a view of re-enforcing to the north of the James. The question with me was whether he had so weakened himself as to render an attack by Warren likely to be followed by any material advantages, because, so long as he holds his present lines we cannot do anything to assist Warren's movements. I am waiting to have your views. Warren has been ordered to be ready to move at 3 a. m., but the final order has not yet been sent. Just as I had completed the foregoing, your dispatch of 10.15 arrived. I hardly think the enemy will attack, but his movement is either to prepare for a flank movement on my part as you surmise, or else it is to re-enforce to the north of the James.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 16, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL. The following deserters have just been forwarded: Two from the Eighth Florida, came in at 6.30 p. m. 15th instant; one from the Tenth Florida, came in at 3 a. m. 16th instant; one from the Forty-eighth Mississippi, came in at 6 p. m. 15th instant; one from the Sixty-first Virginia, came in at 5.30 a. m. 16th instant. They are all from Mahone's division, of A. P. Hill's corps, and represent Weisiger's, Harris', and Finegan's brigades. They state that all of Mahone's division is in our front excepting two brigades, Wright's and Perrin's, which they think

moved to Drewry's Bluff at 2 p. m. day before yesterday. Cannot say whether all of Heth's division is in our front or not. Davis' brigade, of Heth's division, was on the right of his (Heth's) division yesterday. The following telegram has been received from Colonel Sharpe:

CITY POINT, *August 16, 1864.*

J. C. BABCOCK:

Our cavalry took prisoners this a. m. from Fitz Lee's division; Chambliss killed; his body in our hands; fight on Charles City road two miles of White's Tavern. Prisoners taken this a. m. by Tenth Corps report Wright's brigade, of Mahone's division, and Lane's brigade, of Wilcox's division, on General Birney's front; supposed they came over last night. Negro refugee from Richmond says he worked there in a shop where they were making fans to ventilate mines; that fifteen were to be made, and five were done when he left; that some days ago a gang of forty negroes were sent from Richmond to work in mines at Petersburg.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

We believe the two brigades, Wright's and Perrin's, of Mahone's division, to have moved from the enemy's extreme right day before yesterday at 2 p. m.; that Heth's division and the two divisions of Beauregard remain here as usual.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. BABCOCK.

CITY POINT, *August 16, 1864.*

J. C. BABCOCK, *Headquarters Army of the Potomac:*

I refer to W. H. F. Lee's division as having crossed to the north side of the James—the one in which Chambliss, who was killed this morning, and Barringer, were brigade commanders.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE, *City Point:*

Deserters from three different brigades of Mahone's division received this a. m. report that Wright's and Perrin's brigades moved to Drewry's Bluff day before yesterday at 2 p. m. As far as they know Heth's division remained unchanged, though we only hear from Davis' brigade, which is on the right of the division.

J. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 16, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following report just received from the signal station near Fifth Corps headquarters:

No movement. No working parties seen. Enemy hauling logs to front. All quiet.

WARTS,
Lieutenant.

The other stations report no changes.

By order:

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 16, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following, just received from the station near the plank road:

AUGUST 16—5 p. m.

Camps that were re-established in woods west-northwest from this station again broken up and force apparently moving to the left but not appearing on line of Weldon railroad. Troops in fortifications in our front also relieved and moving in same direction.

FULTON,
Sergeant.

By order:
I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. S. STRYKER,
First Lieutenant and Adjutant Signal Corps.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 16, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The evening report from the station near the Gibbon house has just been received and is respectfully forwarded:

AUGUST 16, 1864—6.30 p. m.

A train of box-cars appeared to-day on the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad, about one mile out of the city. Nothing unusual has been noticed in enemy's lines to-day. Work progressing all day on fort. The camp reported removed from that locality has reappeared.

JORDAN,
Sergeant.

By order:
I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. S. STRYKER,
First Lieutenant and Adjutant Signal Corps.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 16, 1864—7.20 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Camps broken up in woods in rear of front line, commencing from Gregory's house and extending left about a mile. The force in works were relieved by an equally strong force. Don't think front line weakened. Enemy active hauling logs and improving works.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 16, 1864—6.30 a. m. (Received 10.40.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding:

GENERAL: General Miles has arrived at the Charles City road and connected with Col. Irvin Gregg at the point where the Charles City road crosses the ravine of Deep Creek. Colonel Gregg says there is

but very little water in the ravine. Colonel Gregg is now moving forward to attack the enemy's cavalry, which can be seen on the other side of the ravine. General Miles is also moving forward to assist in the attack, with two regiments deployed as skirmishers; has the rest of his command ready to go forward if required. I will write and let you know the result as soon as possible. General Miles is on left of Charles City road, and Colonel Gregg on the right of it.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. G. MITCHELL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
Deep Creek, August 16, 1864—7.15 a. m. (Received 8.15.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding:

GENERAL: General Gregg's cavalry and General Miles' skirmishers have crossed Deep Creek, driving the enemy before them in the direction of White's Tavern, which is about two miles from this point. General Gregg is here. He thinks we can go forward as far, probably, as White's Tavern. I will keep you informed of our progress. There is no firing at this moment. The enemy appear to be falling back rapidly and our troops are advancing.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. G. MITCHELL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

General GRANT:

A brigadier-general, supposed to be Brigadier-General Girardey, is dead within our lines. So reports my chief of staff. Girardey commands that brigade of General Wright's, who is on leave.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 16, 1864—8.15 a. m. (Received 9.15 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding:

GENERAL: Generals Gregg and Miles are advancing, with sharp skirmishing. We are now about one mile from White's Tavern, on Charles City road. Have not met enemy's infantry yet. We have killed Brigadier-General Chambliss, of the rebel service. His body is in our possession.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

W. G. MITCHELL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

The prisoners are from W. H. F. Lee's division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

There is as yet nothing important to note. Generals Miles and Gregg are advancing up the Charles City road. The enemy were driven from behind Deep Creek and are falling back toward White's Tavern. I do not think I will push the reconnaissance much farther than White's Tavern until I hear from General Birney, who has swung into the left and is advancing toward the Central road. He reports a line of the enemy's works well filled, and is moving to the right to see if he can turn the flank. He will attack if there is a good opening. The enemy's lines along the heights behind Bailey's Creek appear about as yesterday.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—9.10 a. m.

General MEADE:

At 8 a. m. our troops on Charles City road were driving the enemy, our advance being within one mile of White's Tavern. Brigadier-General Chambliss was killed and his body fell into our hands. Our loss is not considerable yet. Colonel Gregg is wounded, but not seriously.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

General GRANT:

One prisoner from Sanders' brigade reports that the other brigades of Mahone's division were ready to come. General Gregg found a valuable map on General Chambliss' body, which I will send you when it comes. It is said to have the enemy's line marked on it.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—9.20 a. m.

General GRANT:

General Birney is still examining the enemy's line with a view to attack. He finds it protected by a difficult ravine, and is crossing the ravine further to the right. The enemy's line is apparently not continuous from the Central to the Charles City roads.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General GRANT:

I omitted to state that the prisoners thus far taken on the Charles City road are all cavalry of W. H. F. Lee's division.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

CITY POINT, *August 16, 1864—10 a. m.*

Major-General HANCOCK:

Your dispatch received. At White's Tavern you are in rear of the enemy's line or nearly so, and must cause a falling back on the whole front from New Market on the left (our right). The troops not engaged on our right should watch the enemy closely and be prepared to follow up the moment the enemy give way, if they do give way. The people at White's Tavern are Union, and may be relied on if you or Birney get an opportunity to question them in person.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *August 16, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Major-General HANCOCK:

I have directed General Butler to make a demonstration of an advance with his troops at Dutch Gap. You will perceive this threatens their retreat on Chaffin's Bluff, whilst your forces near White's Tavern threaten their retreat toward Richmond.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864. (Received 12.20 p. m.)

General GRANT:

The provost-marshal at Deep Bottom says that an officer from the enemy's lines opposite communicated with him to exchange papers this morning. He belonged to the Twenty-ninth Tennessee, and says that the Seventeenth, of the same State, is with them. They belonged to Longstreet's corps, but I do not find them on the memorandum furnished me of Field's division. He says that the enemy are expecting a flag of truce to-day at Aiken's Landing.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864. (Received 12.20 p. m.)

General GRANT:

Your dispatches have been received. General Birney is advancing in three lines and will make a vigorous attack. If the enemy will make a fight where Birney is I will put in my whole force. If they, however,

are intrenched strongly I leave it to General Birney's discretion to assault or not. The enemy are strengthening their left, apparently at the expense of their right. General Birney just sends in thirty-four prisoners from the following regiments: Thirty-seventh North Carolina, Thirty-eighth North Carolina, Thirty-third North Carolina, Eighteenth North Carolina, Second Georgia, Tenth Georgia, Sixty-fourth Georgia, Twenty-second Georgia, and Forty-eighth Georgia. He has carried one line and thinks he has their left. He will go forward again. Generals Miles and Gregg report the enemy re-enforcing against them from the direction of the Central road.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General GRANT:

Major-General Birney reports to me that he has captured the enemy's ravine line in his front. The enemy are doubling on him, and I am making an attack now on their right to seize the works which they hold thinly. I think we will seize them. The infantry command from Charles City has been ordered in on to General Birney's right, or rather to connect with it, leaving the cavalry to cover the Charles City road and hold their position, if possible.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Same to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The good news from Birney just received. The Thirty-seventh, Twenty-eighth, Thirty-third, and Eighteenth North Carolina all belong to Lane's brigade, Wilcox's division. The Second, Twenty-second, Forty-eighth, and Sixty-fourth Georgia belong to Wright's brigade, Mahone's division. The Tenth Georgia belongs to Bryan's brigade, Kershaw's division. Wright's and Perrin's brigades, of Mahone's division, undoubtedly left our front on Saturday, and are now in front of you. It will appear that you have parts of both Kershaw's and Wilcox's divisions, both of whom were reported as having left for the Valley. There is no change of any kind in the enemy opposite to us beyond the withdrawal of Wright's and Perrin's brigades of Mahone's. Deserters in to-day report the other three brigades of Mahone, all of Heth and Beauregard, as still here. There is some confusion about the cavalry in your front. As I understand it, W. H. F. Lee is sometimes called Fitz Lee, the other Lee is Fitzhugh Lee. I suppose the former is in your front; the latter was at Reams' Station yesterday.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

General MEADE:

This division of cavalry is General W. H. F. Lee's (Rooney Lee), General Lee's son, not Fitz Lee's, who is the oldest division commander, but the one who was in Fort La Fayette. They are both named Fitz Lee, but one is known as Fitz Lee and the other as Rooney Lee among their companions. This command left Reams' Station day before yesterday at 11 o'clock and arrived here yesterday morning. I have a rebel color and some prisoners—10 officers and 153 men. A staff officer of General Birney reports that he has taken three colors, but has only got hold of one as yet. Colonel Dent will return with the prisoners captured, except those taken by the cavalry, which have not yet come.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Grant.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

General GRANT:

Prisoners just taken report Lane's and Wright's brigades in front of General Birney, they having arrived there last night.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General GRANT:

One brigade from which General Birney took prisoners arrived here last night. An officer from General Field's staff is taken and says there are 15,000 men in my front. A prisoner says that General Lee crossed over here from Petersburg to-day. The enemy are attacking Birney's right pretty strongly.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

P. S.—General Birney's loss is considerable, and he has captured some more prisoners.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

General GRANT:

I send four more officers and forty-nine men.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 16, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding:

GENERAL: The enemy's infantry has attacked General Miles and General Gregg forcibly. Our troops are retiring on the Charles City road, the enemy pressing quite heavily. Generals Miles and Gregg will hold the line of Deep Creek. The enemy attacked on Charles City road. We are now about one mile from Deep Creek and retiring toward that point. I believe the crossing of the road (Charles City) at Deep Creek can easily be held by the troops of General Miles and General Gregg.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. G. MITCHELL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 16, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General GRANT:

Our losses so far as I can ascertain are heavy. Four brigade commanders are reported killed or wounded. I have just returned from General Birney. He has, I think, lost a part of the line he took from the enemy, but he is intrenching the rest, and I have ordered him to retake all of it. I think he is secure. I have forwarded additional troops on his right and left. A considerable portion of Hill's corps is here—how much, I cannot say at this moment. General Birney thinks all of it; but I could not to any of these statements advise credence until I can substantiate them. We have been making a formidable demonstration thus far. I have taken numbers of prisoners from Sanders' brigade, whose presence I reported this morning, and Field's division still remains here on our right, according to the statement of prisoners well disposed to us, who were taken this morning. I have made demonstrations (really attacks) on the enemy's right, but have always found the enemy's intrenchments well manned.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—4.15 p. m.

General GRANT:

The force on the Charles City road has been pressed back to this side of Deep Creek by a superior force of infantry; what command is not known. Our troops behaved well, but were driven back by superior numbers. General Gregg is now on the north side of Deep Creek and says he can hold his position. General Miles has returned to General Birney's right flank, and the infantry which attacked him on the Charles City road has moved toward Fussell's Mill, on the enemy's left. I have Richmond papers of the 15th. I can telegraph you some items if you have not seen them, though there is nothing impor-

tant. Dates from Mobile and Atlanta of 13th [say] two of our ships reported inside the bar at Mobile. General Miles' loss, say, 150 men of 1,400, and General Gregg quite a number.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864. (Received 6 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Miles has returned to the right of General Birney, General Gregg holding Deep Creek, a strong place on the Charles City road. An attack on the enemy will be made at 5 o'clock on General Birney's front. Everything is calm here at present. I have on General Birney's line two brigades of the Second Corps on the right, and one engaged with him, and one on his left; the remainder of the Second Corps on the left. The fight has been to the right of Fussell's mill-pond. The enemy have lost heavily to-day, according to the reports of their prisoners and other indications. I have the map taken from General Chambliss' body, which is a very perfect map, embracing the complete fortifications of Richmond and the surrounding country on both sides of the river. Have not sent it in, as I have not had an opportunity since receiving it.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 16, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Since General Miles was withdrawn the enemy have pressed General Gregg pretty hard, and have forced him across Deep Creek, where he now holds in the rifle-pits. The farthest point gained by our forces was six to seven miles from Richmond, within half a mile of White's Tavern, where the enemy's infantry appeared in force.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

General GRANT:

The following dispatch is just received from General Birney. I have not received a full report from Colonel Smyth:

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—5.57 p. m.

General HANCOCK:

I advanced my skirmishers, and after a reconnaissance have concluded not to attack. The enemy have massed in my front, and in my opinion, even after taking the works, my force could not do more. Colonel Smyth, Second Division, reports troops

and artillery passing two hours to my front. I send another flag, captured this morning. Four more are reported. I have not seen them. I would like a statement of previous flags turned over.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—7 p. m.

General GRANT:

This evening General Mott, by making a strong demonstration on the enemy's right, brought off the gun left by General Birney day before yesterday, together with three loads of ammunition which have been covered by the enemy since that time. The gun was an 8-inch siege howitzer, and the ammunition belongs to guns of that caliber.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

CITY POINT, *August 16, 1864.*

General HANCOCK:

I send for your information the following dispatch from General Butler.*

The position secured by General Butler may turn the whole position now held by the enemy. I will have it examined in the morning, and if it does will transfer a portion of your command to it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

General GRANT:

My casualties to-day in the entire command, including cavalry, at the minimum, 1,500.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Same to General Meade.)

CITY POINT, *August 16, 1864.*
(Received 9.30 p. m.)

General HANCOCK:

I have ordered to Strawberry Plains steamers ostensibly to bring down the Second Corps. It is intended as a ruse to make the enemy believe you are withdrawing, and to bring them out to attack you. Send orders to the steamers to return here at 4 a. m. in the morning.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See Butler to Grant, beginning—As soon as arrangements, &c., p. 232.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864. (Received 17th.)

General GRANT:

Your dispatch is received and the necessary steps will be taken to carry out your views.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 16, 1864—10.50 a. m.

General Birney is making quite an attack; has captured some prisoners. The pickets should threaten an advance at all times. Troops should be shown on the left. Any commander may take advantage at once of any weakness in the enemy's lines. General Gregg will push the reconnaissance beyond White's Tavern with his cavalry.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(To Brigadier-Generals Barlow and Mott and Colonel Smyth, commanding divisions.)

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

The troops will be held ready to move at once—this not to interfere with any previous instructions given in regard to feeling or trying the enemy's lines.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(To Generals Mott and Barlow and Colonel Smyth.)

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—4.40 a. m.

Colonel Craig, commanding brigade of Second Corps, temporarily attached to this command, will report immediately to Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry, commanding First Division, Tenth Corps.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE,
Near White's Tavern, August [16], 1864—11 a. m.

Col. C. H. MORGAN,
Chief of Staff, Second Corps:

My advance is within less than a half mile from White's Tavern. We have driven them steadily thus far from Deep Bottom. We have met strong force in front, also struck a line of flankers marching toward

White's Tavern from the direction of Fussell's Mill. We hold the ground gained and await orders. I do not consider it advisable to advance farther up this road without connecting with the right of General Birney, which I will endeavor to do and move forward if you direct.

Very respectfully,

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

General MILES:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that while General Gregg remains in front with you you will obey any orders which he may give. General Gregg has been directed not to give up his reconnaissance as long as he considers it safe. He has been advised, however, that if General Birney has heavy and continuous firing you are to close in toward him.

[F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Col. T. A. SMYTH,
Commanding Second Division:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding is informed that just previous to 5 this p. m. you informed General Birney that the enemy had been passing to his front with infantry and cavalry for two hours. The major-general commanding desires to be informed exactly what report was made and why it was not made to these headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 16, 1864—11 a. m.

General MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

The major-general commanding directs that the regiment sent last evening to hold the woods near the bridge-head be recalled and rejoin your division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 16, 1864—1.50 p. m.

General MOTT:

The signal officer reports that the enemy are still passing troops quietly away along from your front, and have taken away two guns out

of three. You had better at once attack, or make a strong demonstration to that effect. If the enemy are vacating their lines attack them and seize their works.

[F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 16, 1864—3.15 p. m. (Received 3.30 p. m.)

Lieut. Col. F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I have made a demonstration and find the enemy have a strong skirmish line and the works manned. The guns are still in position. I have given orders for a demonstration to be made on the extreme left by a regiment.

Very respectfully,

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 16, 1864. (Received 3.40 p. m.)

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: General Hancock says your movements meet his wishes.

Respectfully,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

Lieut. Col. F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to state that I made a demonstration on the left this evening and found the enemy with a strong skirmish line and the works manned. During that time I had the 8-inch siege gun brought away, and brought in three loads of ammunition belonging to that siege gun.

Very respectfully,

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

The command will be under arms at 3 a. m. to-morrow. Brigade commanders will see that camps are struck at that hour. The officer commanding pickets will be notified to keep the pickets vigilant and all be under arms at that time. An attack is expected.

By command of Brigadier-General Mott:

JOHN HANCOCK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

I am instructed to say that engineers are directed to go on with the work on the intrenchments, and that you will please furnish the details required by them.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864—8.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you be prepared to move at 3 a. m. to-morrow. Instructions will be sent you during the night. Major Duane has been ordered to return all working parties.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864—9.20 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you move to-morrow morning at 3 o'clock by way of Strong's house and the shortest road thence to the Weldon railroad near the intersection of the Vaughan road, and if the enemy hold their intrenchments weakly in that vicinity endeavor to carry them and occupy the crest in rear of their first line of works opposite the fronts held by the Ninth and Eighteenth Corps. Information derived from General Hancock to-day shows two brigades of Mahone's division to the north of the James, and the signal officer on the plank road observed this evening the troops in the trenches on the enemy's right toward the Weldon railroad vacating the works, and those in our front in the vicinity of the plank road being relieved and moving out. This indicates that but three divisions of the enemy hold their intrenchments south of the Appomattox. General Kautz will be ordered to concentrate his cavalry somewhere near the plank road and prevent Fitzhugh Lee's division of cavalry coming in on your rear. Keep the commanding general advised of your progress and of everything important.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

In sending you the instructions for to-morrow I have anticipated the action of the commanding general. They are suspended until further notice.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR, No. 105.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

Division commanders and the commander of the Artillery Brigade will hold their commands in readiness to move at 3 a. m. to-morrow. Further instructions will be sent. Division commanders will at once recall their working parties.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864—6.30 p. m. (Received 7.15 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The signal officer on the plank road reports the enemy leaving his intrenchments opposite to where he is. Do the reports from your front confirm this; and, if so, to what extent?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Have just returned from my left. The report of the signal officer reached my headquarters about the same time as a report from General White to the same effect. While at General White's headquarters nothing further was reported.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864—8.40 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Your dispatch of 8.20 p. m. received. Is the report of General White founded upon the observation of his pickets or officers?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report the enemy quiet on my front to-day. The report of picket-firing on Second Division front made this morning was an error. Some damage was done our works by the rain, which is being repaired. The detailed report mentioned in a previous dispatch to Major-General Humphreys will be forwarded as soon as received.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—11.20 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

The movement reported this evening by the officer of the day of the right brigade of White's division was discovered by one of his vedettes in the center of his picket-line. The officer then took position and discovered a column moving behind a heavy work due west of Fort Tilton and proceeding parallel to their line until they passed into the woods. Judging from the intervals between the horsemen there were five regiments. After these regiments had disappeared in the woods he saw about a regiment move into the rifle-pits to south of the heavy work before mentioned, and an increase of the picket-line in his front of about fifty men.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

General GREGG:

In order to prevent the enemy's recapturing General Chambliss' body as a trophy in any of the subsequent operations of the day, the major-general commanding thinks you had better send it back in an ambulance. I think if General Chambliss is buried here it might be done on the New Market road, say by the Potteries, putting up a head-board by which the grave could be recognized. General Hancock is sorry to hear of Colonel Gregg's wound, and is glad to hear that you are doing so well.

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 16, 1864—11 a. m.

General GREGG:

The major-general commanding desires that you will continue to push your reconnaissance as far as you consider it practicable and safe. It will create a diversion certainly, and will compel them to vacate their position here if they do not feel strong.

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864—12 m.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Commanding:*

Yours received. We are going ahead.

Yours, &c.,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

The enemy have some artillery in position near White's Tavern, but I think the movement we are now making will compel the falling back of their force.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—12.20 p. m.

General GREGG:

General Hancock wishes, if it can be done properly, that General Miles now come in and protect the roads leading into General Birney's right and rear, while you hold strongly to the front. General Birney reports that he has carried the enemy's main line on his front, and wishes this protection to his right. The general commanding considers your reconnaissance complete if you can hold on where you are.

Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—2 p. m.

General GREGG:

General Birney has captured 200 or 300 prisoners and 3 battle-flags. One general officer, supposed to be Girardey, is dead within our lines. Release Miles as soon as you can, and send him straight toward General Birney, holding pretty strong to your front. Since writing the above, your dispatch by Captain Brownson was received. If Miles becomes heavily engaged, of course his return is out of question until a proper time. A brigade of Colonel Broady has just gone on General Birney's right. You should see, by cavalry vedettes, that the road is open before Deep Creek and Birney always.

FRANCIS A. WALKER.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

General GREGG:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that unless you are very seriously engaged you must send General Miles toward General Birney by the shortest route, and dispute the Charles City road with your cavalry. General Birney is pretty heavily pressed on his right and left.

[FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864—3.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

COLONEL: General Miles has gone to Birney's right and I am holding the north side of Deep Creek. Our last advance was met by a superior force of infantry, which moved up from the direction of Fussell's Mill; the force is now retiring to my left and in the direction of the mill. The firing in my front has ceased. I send to General Hancock the map which I found on General Chambliss' body. Please return it when the general is through with it.

Yours, respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 16, 1864—4.15 p. m.

General GREGG:

If you stay at Deep Creek to-night you can have your subsistence brought forward to that point. The major-general commanding desires that you will hold Deep Creek, if possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 16, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding:

GENERAL: The enemy in large force (infantry and cavalry) attacked my brigade north of Deep Run, and after a sharp fight compelled it to retire across Deep Run with considerable loss. It was unfortunate that General Miles left me. The enemy are occupying the works north of Deep Run. In front the enemy are quiet, and I cannot discover any of their movements toward my right or left.

Very respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—5 p. m.

General GREGG:

General Miles has connected with General Birney's right. General Birney is going to attack again about this time. You and General Miles should connect your picket-line along that road, and General Miles has been so instructed. Hold on strongly where you are and see that my right flank is protected by skirmishers, or let me know to the contrary. If you require assistance let me know. At the same time, I expect a heavy fight here before night. I would not have called Miles away from you but for the frequent calls of General Birney. We have captured four stand of colors and several hundred prisoners from the enemy. Their loss has been heavy and ours has not been light. We have had four brigade commanders disabled to-day. One of their brigade commanders is dead in our lines up here. If everything is quiet after dark can't you come up to see me?

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 16, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

Have any men been taken from Wilcox's division within three days? If not, have you any information fixing his presence here within this line?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 16, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *Commanding, &c.:*

Wilcox's division is all here. Lane and McGowan are on north side of the James, where they have been for some weeks. Thomas and Scales are on the right of Pickett's division in our front here, where they also have been for some six weeks or more. I had not heard from them for a day or two, but to-night have had a man from McGowan and have heard direct from Thomas and Scales.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 16, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding, &c.:*

Our troops are now near White's Tavern. You will perceive from the maps this is between the enemy at New Market and Richmond. They will, however, have the road clear to Chaffin's farm. If 1,000 of your men at Dutch Gap could be put under arms and threaten an advance, it might have the effect of starting the enemy on the retreat. In making such demonstration troops would have to start heading down the river, to avoid the batteries near Cox's house.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 16, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *City Point:*

Your dispatch received. I have directed the available force, which will amount to about 1,200 men, at Dutch Gap to make the demonstration you suggest. We shall move in that direction with considerable vigor. The only doubt I have is whether the enemy's iron-clads may be able to sweep the plain in front of Dutch Gap. I have ordered Colonel Wooster commanding at Deep Bottom, also to make an advance up the Kingsland road toward its junction with Three-Mile Creek as a feint at the time we open at Dutch Gap.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HATCHER'S, *August 16, 1864—6 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: We are advancing from Dutch Gap.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 16, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding, &c.:*

It is now getting so late, and the troops under Hancock being at a stand still, it will be necessary for you to use caution about advancing.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 16, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding, &c.:

As soon as arrangements could possibly be made to get the men rested from their work, at 5 o'clock I sent on board the steamer Mount Washington, kindly loaned me by the navy, 950 of the working party at Dutch Gap, and landed about three-fourths of a mile below, at Aiken's, by which I was enabled to turn the enemy's battery at H. Cox's, and under cover of the gun-boats, which you heard, Major Ludlow advanced, turning the enemy's line, capturing it after a smart skirmish in which we lost one man killed, and we now occupy the work on the brow of the hill which you saw. It is a very strong line for the enemy. Our line of pickets extend from Cox's house at the turn of the river above Dutch Gap to the northeast and about half a mile toward Three-Mile Creek. We have not men enough to occupy all the works. The right has been occupied by rifle-pits and one piece of artillery, the line extending to Three-Mile Creek, but there is nothing now between us and Three-Mile Creek. Major Ludlow thinks this position a very strong one, if occupied by the rebels, to oppose any advance on our part. I have directed it to be held to-night. If you propose tc go up to Deep Bottom to-morrow you can easily examine it yourself, or one of the engineers may be sent up to examine it. We have captured a prisoner there, and he says he is from one of Beauregard's brigades (Johnson's old). I have a report from Colonel Wooster, commanding at Deep Bottom, that he advanced a strong skirmish line until his entire line passed Kingsland road, his right resting on Four-Mile Creek and advancing beyond it as far as W. H. Ammons', beyond the New Market road, and his left beyond Ruffin's house. He developed only a strong skirmish line and two or three companies of infantry. He captured a prisoner of the Third North Carolina, which regiment belonged to Johnson's division and Steuart's brigade, which was supposed to have been captured with its general. I have also another prisoner who claims to belong to the Tenth Virginia of the same brigade, who says his brigade is out there and has been encamped there for some time. At 9 o'clock Colonel Wooster retired to his original position. With reference to this prisoner I have never, from all the prisoners or deserters, heard of this brigade on this line before and know not where they came from. Colonel Wooster had no killed and none seriously wounded. It would seem that there is no difficulty in advancing any body of troops in that direction. Our movement has certainly been successful as a reconnaissance, if nothing more.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 16, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

If you have men to spare to hold the position secured by Major Ludlow until I can get up there I will have the ground examined, and if it is practicable to get through, will transfer a portion of the force with General Hancock.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 16, 1864.

Major LUDLOW,
Aide-de-Camp, &c.:

I inclose to you a telegram from Lieutenant-General Grant.* The troops of Hancock and Birney are near White's Tavern, on the Charles City road, extending across the Central and New Market roads. That, you will see, brings the enemy at Dutch Gap in your front directly between our troops and you. I wish you would get all the men you can spare under arms and advance upon them and try them, of course deploying your force a little to the right from the gap, in order to avoid the battery at Cox's house, if it still remains there. I trust by this time you have got your gun mounted and unmasked, so that you can bear upon that battery. At the time you advance, which should be done with a good deal of celerity and determination with a strong line of skirmishers to surprise the enemy, let your 100-pounder open upon that battery as well as you can. At the opening of your artillery I will direct Colonel Wooster to advance a strong skirmish-line at Deep Bottom up toward the junction of Three-Mile Creek with the Kingsland road. I will endeavor to be over at the gap by the time your dispositions are made, but do not wait for me. It is of importance that you should endeavor to silence the artillery. Please try to observe where the enemy's gun-boats are, that you may not be interfered with in attempting to cross the plain between your works and the enemy. Form your line of battle in the gap out of sight of the enemy as much as possible and deploy with rapidity. How are you supplied with ammunition?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 16, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel HOWARD,
Chief Quartermaster, Bermuda:

You will select two of the most worthless canal barges we have, if two have not already been selected, for the purpose of being sunk in the James, of course taking off all tackle and everything which is useless when sunk, and report them as early as possible to the naval vessel, the Miami, off City Point. Report to me when this order is executed.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

BERMUDA, *August 16, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the barges Mary Moyer and Agnes Gibson have been procured at City Point, where some delay was experienced.

JOHN B. HOWARD,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief Quartermaster.

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* See p. 231.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 16, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer on the Spring Hill Station reports at 7 a. m. that since 8.30 last night two trains passed toward Richmond and one toward Petersburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 16, 1864—8.10 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports at 8 a. m. that eight cars loaded with troops just passed the Junction toward Petersburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Va. and N. C.

SPRING HILL, *August 16, 1864.*

Captain NORTON:

Three pieces of artillery moving from railroad station east, across open space to the enemy's line of works, nearly opposite my station.

SIMONS,
Lieutenant, Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS No. 224. HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C., *In the Field, Va., August 16, 1864.*

* * * * * *

XI. The One hundred and fifty-fifth Regiment Ohio Volunteers, National Guard, now at Norfolk, will be relieved from duty there and ordered to Ohio for muster out. Quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT MONROE, *August 16, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT:

Your telegram of the 14th received this morning. Will send you 240 24-pounder shell to-morrow. I have telegraphed to Washington requesting that supplies of these shells be hurried forward as fast as possible.

T. EDSON,
Captain of Ordnance.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—9.20 a. m. (Received 9.45 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

General Terry reports that General Foster's line of skirmishers is within 200 yards of the enemy's skirmish line. Foster will commence driving them within the next five minutes. Prisoners just brought in report that Wright's and Lane's brigades are directly in Foster's front, having arrived last night.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I send you herewith two prisoners captured by General Terry.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—2.25 p. m.

General BIRNEY:

I send you another brigade under General Barlow to your right, where I supposed that Colonel Broady's brigade was to be sent, and I have ordered Miles' to be sent in to you as soon as possible. How soon he may come I cannot tell at this distance. I am told you have also already got a brigade of Colonel Smyth's division. We have plenty of troops, and if the commanders will hold until re-enforced, there can be no difficulty.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
August 16, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I propose to attack again at 5 o'clock. General Miles has formed on my right flank, covering the road leading to my rear. The enemy seem to be in strength. I have reversed their first line.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—5.57 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Commanding Forces:*

GENERAL: I advanced my skirmishers and after a reconnaissance concluded not to attack. The enemy have massed in my front and, in my opinion, even after taking the works, my force could not do more. Colonel Smyth, Second Division, reports troops and artillery passing two hours to my front. I send another flag captured this morning; four more are reported; I have not seen them. I would like a statement of prisoners and of flags turned over.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires to be informed whether Colonel Craig's brigade, of the Third Division, Second Corps, was engaged in the assault this p. m.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

The following movements of the troops will be made: The picket-line will advance, driving the enemy's skirmishers back, and General Terry will try to turn the enemy's left, attacking with his entire division if necessary. Colonel Craig, commanding brigade, Second Corps, will report for orders to General Terry, and the forces under Brigadier-General Birney will be held in readiness to support General Terry as he vacates the high ground, and also to hold it and support the batteries.

By order of General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General TERRY:

Please report progress and explain the cause of the delay in executing the movement.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

The major-general commanding is aware that there is a continuous line of works covering Richmond, but thinks it probable they are not strongly manned. It is of the greatest importance to ascertain how this is. The Second Corps is awaiting your attack to attack also.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General TERRY:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that your report of progress is satisfactory. He desires you to push your movement with alacrity and to use your entire division if, in your opinion, advisable.

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* For answer, see 8.45 p. m., Part I, p. 678.

Gibbon's division, Second Corps, has reported to me and can occupy the position you have held, and the force under Brigadier-General Birney is ready for your support if needed.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General TERRY:

The major-general commanding directs that such of your troops as have become disorganized and are not in line take the intrenching tools and throw up rifle-pits here on the crest.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General TERRY:

Nearly all the troops have now been sent in that can be spared. The major-general commanding directs me to say that he depends on you to see to it that they are not piled up but well developed, especially to the right and connecting with the mill-pond on the left. Use abatis and every available obstruction in your front—rails, logs, and barricades. Get the troops ready to make an assault

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864—6.30 p. m.

[Brigadier-General TERRY:]

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to inform you that there will be no attack to-night. You will, as soon as you can without confusion, assemble the different parts of your command under their proper commanders, bringing the parts of brigades now separate together.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
Deep Run, August 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER:

Terry assaulted at 9 a. m., supported by Birney. Carried the enemy's works handsomely, and afterward got out of ammunition and had to leave the main line with heavy loss. Osborn slightly wounded. Plimpton and Walrath killed,* with many others.

Yours, &c.,

ED. W. SMITH.

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* Walrath was wounded, not killed.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 16, 1864—12.05 p. m.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Commanding Line of Defenses:

This afternoon we propose to make a little movement from Deep Bottom and Dutch Gap, so that when you hear the row you will know what it all means. Will you please see that the batteries at the Curtis house and at Crow's Nest be ready to open on the iron-clads if they open; on the Howlett house if it opens, together with the Water Battery, to bear on the Howlett house, or, if possible, on the iron-clads. I will be along by your headquarters as soon as I can, and perhaps get you to go over to Deep Bottom, after the proper dispositions are made on this side. I have ordered the Deep Bottom dispatch to be taken off for you.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.
Major-General, Commanding.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER:

Give Major Ludlow a regiment, which he will ask for, to hold his ground. A force will be transferred there from Hancock's to-morrow, if practicable.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, August 16, 1864.

Colonel CURTIS,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: I am instructed by the brigadier-general to inform you that a movement will be made this afternoon from Deep Bottom and Dutch Gap. The Water Battery, battery at Curtis' house, and battery at Crow's Nest, have been directed to open upon the enemy's iron-clads should they make their appearance and open upon our troops, or upon the Howlett house battery if it opens upon our troops.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Captain, Forty-seventh New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 16, 1864—12.05 p. m.

Colonel WOOSTER,
Commanding at Deep Bottom:

Prepare a strong skirmish line of your troops, supported by a line of battle, and make an advance upon the enemy with considerable determination, at least enough to make them develop their forces when you hear the opening of heavy guns at Dutch Gap. That opening will be with a 100-pounder rifle, and perhaps some light artillery. Press back

the enemy as far as you can do with safety, moving up toward the Kingsland road at the junction of Three-Mile Creek, toward Ruffin's house. Reply by telegraph how soon you can be ready. Perhaps you can use your own artillery. You will ascertain, of course, as near as you can where the left of Hancock's line rests, so as not to advance too far, leaving your right flank exposed. Your left will be protected by the creek. The troops at Dutch Gap will be out three miles away from your left before they advance. As they advance you will be approaching. See to it that there is no collision on your left.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

DEEP BOTTOM, *August 16, 1864—12.45 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I can be ready at 2 p. m. with but a small force. Taking everything from my fortifications I have less than 700 men, except those on the picket-line. Shall I use my light battery? I am entirely unacquainted with the country and the creeks.

WM. B. WOOSTER,
Colonel Twenty-ninth Connecticut.

DEEP BOTTOM, *August 16, 1864—1.05 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

My whole force is not sufficient to form a skirmish line on my present front as I picket. I could have nothing to form a line of battle with. Shall I make the attempt to press beyond my present picket-line with this insufficient force?

WM. B. WOOSTER,
Colonel, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

I telegraphed you [General Butler] at 2.30 the substance of within.

GEO. A. KENSEL.

Have telegraphed Colonel Wooster to obey your orders and that I have sent these dispatches to you.

K.

DEEP BOTTOM, *August 16, 1864—10 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

As your guns opened this afternoon I advanced my lines, swinging around my right until my entire line passed the Kingsland road. My right rested upon a ravine, the extension of Four-Mile Run. I continued to press my right into the woods until it became so dark I could no longer continue my skirmish line. My advance developed only a strong picket-line. On the right of the Ruffin house the enemy was in small rifle-pits, and staid until I took them by a charge. I could neither hear nor see anything of Hancock's lines. The length of my lines by this advance became so great that in order to concentrate my

force I was obliged to fall back to my original lines, which I did at 9 p. m. The length of time consumed in the advance of my right gave ample time for the concentration of force, if they had any. I have one prisoner only reported to me, who states he is from the Twenty-fifth Virginia Battalion, and he states part of the picket was from the Third North Carolina. My cavalry advanced on my left to some 200 yards beyond the Ammons house, and report rebel infantry force in the woods near that point, but I should suppose not to exceed two or three companies. They advanced in a line nearly perpendicular to my line of vedettes, fired rapidly in skirmish five to ten minutes, then fired a volley and retired. As they retired my left vedette fired at the left of this force. At what they were firing my vedettes could not state. I have some wounded, but I believe none killed.

WM. B. WOOSTER,
Colonel Twenty-ninth Connecticut.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 16, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

Am I expected to resume work on the redoubts in my front?

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

If you have men that you can put to work upon the redoubts the commanding general thinks the work should be resumed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., August 16, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. B. CARR,
Commanding First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am instructed by Major-General Ord to direct you to take measures to have the trenches in your front properly drained, and every necessary precaution taken to guard against their being filled with water in the future. You will also repair at once all damages which the parapets have sustained by reason of the rain. If pails are needed for bailing the trenches, or tools are needed, they can be had on application to these headquarters. As there are 2,000 picks and spades reported as being in the trenches, it is presumed they are not needed.

I am, general, very respectfully, yours,

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Brig. Gens. A. Ames and C. J. Paine.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: One of your men, who was captured on picket near Mount Sinai or Mount Zion Church, on last Thursday night, states that he learned that a large number of the enemy's scouts and men were prowling about the rear of the army and among the camps of the trains, picking up information, stealing horses, &c.; the man's name is Wilcox, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry. He is on his way to your command. The commanding general desires that you send small patrolling parties to look after these men. General Patrick has been directed to send patrols for the same purpose.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 16, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Your instructions concerning guerrillas and scouts, as reported by Private Wilcox, has been received. I would, however, respectfully suggest that the picket-line is so thin now that to detach men to look among the trains in rear would increase the facilities for the enemy to get through the picket-line. Private Wilcox is known here as a very unreliable man, subject to intoxication. The fact, however, that there are numerous scouts and guerrillas of the enemy in rear of the army has been repeatedly reported through General Gregg. Whether any succeeded in getting through the line has not been discovered, but it would seem the best place to catch such parties, if I had any men to spare, to dispose them on the line and get them either going out or coming in. Numbers of captures are made every day and the prisoners sent in to the provost-marshal. Quite a number are caught going out. They are always in our uniform, and represent themselves as belonging to some regiment of our army, but may in reality belong to the enemy, which the provost-marshal alone can determine. No force of the enemy is reported along the line, but the usual amount of attacks on the pickets by scouts and bushwhackers took place last night. Two men were wounded last night, one of the First District of Columbia Cavalry, near Lee's Mill, and one of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, near Sycamore Church. These attacks are made by one or two men on individual pickets usually, and patrols and parties from the picket-line are constantly in pursuit of these characters. It would seem advisable, in order to secure any that may get within our lines, to instruct all wagon-masters and other persons in charge of working parties, camps, &c., to arrest all parties hovering about them who do not belong to them, in order to be sent to the provost-marshal to be identified.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864—4 p. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

I have your dispatch of 1.30 p. m. General Patrick's men will look after the trains and their vicinity. It was expected that small patrols from your command would look after such parties as those referred to inside of the lines of your chief patrols, as the lines of such patrols would probably be known to the enemy's scouts, as well as the hours when patrolled, unless both are constantly varied, which, I take it, cannot occur with the lines of patrol. It was for the reason that there was no picket-line in rear of the army (unless you have established one within a few days) that these small patrols were suggested. The cavalry pickets ceased near the plank road, about Alley's, and patrols only were used from there across to Mount Zion Church, and thence over portions of the ground between that and the James. Let me know what part of the line in rear of the army is picketed by you, and what part is patrolled, as I am not certain that I understand fully the meaning of your dispatch in that respect.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 16, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 4.30 p. m. has been received. There is a continuous picket-line from the left of the army to Cocke's Mill, passing from Doctor Gurley's, near Alley's house, on the plank road, across to Brown's, and by the road by Davenport Church, crossing the Norfolk railroad near Baxter's Mill and on to Mount Sinai Church; thence across beyond Rollins' house and on to Cocke's Mill, where the pickets cease. There is no patrolling, except to suspected points and pursuits after enemy's scouts as circumstances require. No force can get through this line without our knowledge, but scouts and bushwhackers are constantly trying to capture pickets during the night by crawling upon them unawares. Private Wilcox has not made his appearance here. I forgot to mention that his name does not appear among the losses reported, and it is doubted whether he has ever been captured.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 16, 1864—9.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

Major-General Warren, commanding Fifth Corps, is directed to move at 3 o'clock to-morrow morning, by way of the Strong house and the shortest road thence to the Weldon railroad, in the vicinity of its inter-

section by the Vaughan road, and if he finds the enemy holding their intrenchments weakly there endeavor to carry them. The major-general commanding directs that you draw in your pickets, excepting those west of the plank road, and concentrate your division at a suitable point near the plank road, or between it and the Norfolk road, and prevent the enemy's cavalry coming in on the rear of General Warren from the direction of Reams' Station. A force of 100 or 200 men may be left near Cocke's Mill or Sycamore Church.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

BATCHELDER'S CREEK, *August 16, 1864.*

Captain PARKINSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

It is impossible to have the necessary scouting done on this front so long as the Red House posts have to be furnished from this camp. The enemy's scouts of late have been very bold, and unless they are kept at bay they will constantly annoy the picket-line. Two large infantry companies will picket the Red House front.

G. H. HITCHCOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

(Duplicate to General Palmer.)

WASHINGTON, *August 17, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have seen your dispatch,* expressing your unwillingness to break your hold where you are. Neither am I willing. Hold on with a bull-dog grip, and chew and choke as much as possible.

A. LINCOLN.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 17, 1864—9 p. m.*
(Received 8 p. m. 18th.)

A. LINCOLN,
President of the United States:

I have thought on your dispatch† relative to an arrangement between General Lee and myself for the suppression of incendiarism by the respective armies. Experience has taught us that agreements made with rebels are binding upon us, but are not observed by them longer than suits their convenience. On the whole, I think the best that can be done is to publish a prohibitory order against burning private property, except where it is a military necessity or in retaliation for like acts by the enemy. Where burning is done in retaliation it must be done by order of a department or army commander, and the order for such burning to set forth the particular act it is in retaliation for. Such an order could be published and would come to the knowledge of the rebel army. I think this course would be much better than any agreement with General Lee. I could publish the order, or it could be published by you. This is respectfully submitted for your consideration, and I will then act as you deem best.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See August 15, p. 193. † See August 14, p. 167.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 17, 1864—9 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

All quiet on the lines during the night. Some little picket-firing and mortar practice. I forward dispatch from signal officer, indicating a return of part of the enemy's troops that were seen to move yesterday p. m.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 17, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch from the plank road signal station is respectfully forwarded:

Camps reported broken up in last evening's report reoccupied during the night, but with less force, I think, than occupied them yesterday. No other change observed.
FULTON.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Signal Officer.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 17, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The report of prisoners captured north of the James indicates that all the cavalry, or nearly so, south of Petersburg has been withdrawn, and also three brigades of infantry have been sent north of the river. There may have been a further reduction of the infantry force, but there is no evidence to show it. Under these circumstances no decisive result could be expected from moving a single corps by our left; but they might get to the Weldon road and, with the aid of a little cavalry, cut and destroy a few miles of it. You may, therefore, start Warren in the morning. I do not want him to fight any unequal battles nor to assault fortifications. His movements should be more a reconnaissance in force, with instructions to take advantage of any weakness of the enemy he may discover. The Ninth and Eighteenth Corps form so thin a line on their present front that no assistance can be expected from them further than the number of the enemy they detain by their presence. Three or four days' rations will be sufficient for General Warren to carry with him. If he cannot strike the road near the enemy's line inclosing Petersburg he can strike or feel farther south. If he finds the enemy extending along the railroad, showing front whenever he does, let him remain, holding them there and sending back for further supplies. I want, if possible, to make such demonstrations as will force Lee to withdraw a portion of his troops from the Valley, so that Sheridan can strike a blow against the balance.

Yours, &c.,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 17, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of this date, per Captain Dunn, aide-de-camp. The necessary instructions will be given to Major-General Warren, who will move at 4 a. m. to-morrow. General Kautz will be directed to place two regiments of cavalry (one-half his force) under General Warren's orders. General Warren will be directed to strike the railroad near the enemy's works, but out of range of them. I anticipate no difficulty in General Warren making a lodgment on the railroad, but I think the enemy will send out all his available reserves to endeavor to check the work of destruction. It is not believed he can spare a force sufficient to seriously embarrass General Warren, though he may be able to interrupt his work of destroying the road by keeping him on the alert by his threats. General Warren will be directed to destroy as much of the road as possible, working south, and cautiously to work till recalled, or forced away by the enemy's operations.

Respectfully, yours, &c.,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 17, 1864—10 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE, *Commanding, &c.:*

Mahone's division and Bushrod Johnson's old brigade are now north of the James. This leaves the force at Petersburg reduced to what it was when the mine was sprung. Warren may find an opportunity to do more than I had expected.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 17, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The information contained in your telegram of 10 p. m. has been sent to General Warren, and he has been directed to strike the railroad close to the enemy's works, to extend and reconnoiter to the left, and, if he finds any weak point, to attack.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 17, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: A dispatch just received from Colonel Sharpe (at City Point), of which the following is a copy, is respectfully submitted for the information of the commanding general, viz:

We received here last evening from General Birney 267 prisoners of war, in which there are sixteen officers included, taken yesterday a. m. They are from Wright's and Perrin's brigades, of Anderson's division, and Lane's and Conner's brigades, of

Wilcox's division. The first two named brigades crossed the James River on Sunday night, and prisoners think that Finegan's brigade also crossed then. The whole of Field's division is in front of our lines near Deep Bottom. I can't hear of the other brigades of Wilcox's division. General Girardey, temporarily commanding Wright's brigade, was killed yesterday a. m. I can't find that any of Heth's division has gone to the north of James, but there is some evidence to show that the Tennessee brigade of Bushrod Johnson has done so. There are prisoners from both brigades of W. H. F. Lee's cavalry division, and they all think that all the cavalry has been withdrawn from our extreme left near the Weldon railroad. They agree that the other cavalry divisions are gone to Early, and are confident that all the cavalry about here is on the north side of the James. I cannot, however, account for the late General Walker's (South Carolina) brigade of cavalry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

CITY POINT, *August 17, 1864.*

Captain McENTEE,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

Prisoners received by General Butler to-day exactly confirm what I sent you this morning. Their information also shows Mahone's old brigade to be on the north side of the James, and Thomas' and Scales' brigades to be on General Butler's front, on the south side. Have you nothing to-day?

SHARPE,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 17, 1864.

Col. G. H. SHARPE,
City Point, Va.:

Have had nothing in to-day. Deserters who came in since Sunday report that all of Mahone's division, except Wright and Perrin, are here.

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

CITY POINT, *August 17, 1864.*

Captain McENTEE,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

The 267 prisoners of war, about whom I telegraphed this a. m., were taken mostly by General Birney instead of General Hancock, and a few by General Gregg's cavalry.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

(Same to Lieutenant Davenport, headquarters Army of the James.)

AUGUST 17, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Major FISHER:

The enemy's signal officer reports that all our boats have left the Appomattox. No change or movement seen this a. m.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

STATION NEAR GIBBON'S HOUSE,
August 17, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

There appears to be a decrease in the enemy's camps all along the woods west of the city. Saw one train of thirty-three wagons moving north on line of Petersburg and Richmond Railroad at 4 p. m. Still working on forts reported, but with small force to-day.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 17, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Major FISHER:

All quiet. Enemy using the spade along the first line of works.

WARTS,
Lieutenant.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 17, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that my lookouts convey the impression that the enemy has to a very great extent weakened their lines in our immediate front within the past three or four days. At about 4 p. m. a train of wagons was seen passing northward upon the Richmond road. Thirty-three were counted, when the rain closed in and shut out all further observation. Small squads of the enemy were employed at various points of their lines, increasing the strength of the works.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 273. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, August 17, 1864.

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41. The following officers of the Signal Corps, U. S. Army, will report in person without delay to the chief signal officer, Army of the Potomac, for assignment to duty: Capt. F. E. Town, Capt. G. S. Dana.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 17, 1864. (Received 9.30 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

A close examination of the enemy's line this morning shows nothing new except that they have been at work all night strengthening their line on our right and extending their intrenchments in that direction.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Same to General Meade.)

CITY POINT, *August 17, 1864.*

General HANCOCK:

I have sent General Barnard and Colonel Comstock to Dutch Gap to see if the works carried by General Butler's men there last evening, and still held by them, give us any advantage in turning the enemy from that direction. I cannot go up until I get their report, and likely will not go up at all to-day. Rest your men all you can unless you see some decided advantage to be gained.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 17, 1864.

General GRANT:

I send you a note just received from General Birney, which I have not thought proper to act on without referring to you.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 17, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

The point where most of the dead and wounded, both of our own and of the enemy, lie [is] under both their fire and ours. I respectfully request that a flag of truce be sent, proposing a suspension of hostilities in order that the wounded may be removed and dead buried.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 17, 1864.*

General HANCOCK:

Send a flag of truce to the commanding officer on the enemy's front where the wounded lie, proposing cessation of hostilities there until the dead and wounded of both parties are collected.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 17, 1864—3.50 p. m.

General GRANT:

Between 4 and 6 this p. m. the dead and wounded between the lines at Fussell's Mill will be delivered to the contending parties under flag of truce.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Same to General Meade.)

CITY POINT, *August 17, 1864—5 p. m.*
(Received 9.20 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

General Barnard and Colonel Comstock have returned and report that no benefit can arise from an advance from the works carried by General Butler last evening. His troops will be withdrawn to Dutch Gap during the night. Your forces will be kept north of the James for some days, during which employ the enemy as you deem best.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 17, 1864. (Received 9.50 p. m.)

General GRANT:

In sending in the proposition for flag of truce I addressed it to the commander immediately in front. It was answered by General Field, who has command of this portion of the line (their right) where the flag went. General W. H. F. Lee also, a few minutes since, sent in a message to my extreme right, on the Charles City road, asking for General Chambliss' body. I answered that it would be delivered at Fussell's Mill.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Same to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 17, 1864. (Received 10.25 p. m.)

General GRANT:

The dead in front of our lines were removed this p. m. under flag of truce. The wounded had already been removed by the enemy. The flag was at two different places a mile apart, and as far as the intrenchments could be observed in either place they were full. General Gary, of the enemy's cavalry, was present during the removal of the dead. Several inquiries were overheard as to General Anderson's headquarters, and other remarks, showing that he is in our front. His adjutant-general was present. Officers of Lane's brigade were also present. It was also noticed that in speaking of yesterday's fight some of the Confederate officers mentioned the part taken by the Tenth Georgia Battalion, and a staff officer says he is confident the Sixty-fourth Georgia was also mentioned, though this regiment does not appear on my roster of Lee's army. There is no doubt but that the enemy have a pretty strong force here to-day. The Richmond papers of to-day, which I will send you as soon as a tug arrives, devote some considerable comment on our affair yesterday. One of them says we attacked on the Charles City road with 30,000 or 40,000 men, including Second, Ninth, and Tenth Corps—Burnside's niggers leading every attack. They also speak of our attack in heavy force near Fussell's Mill.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Same to General Meade.)

CITY POINT, *August 17, 1864—10.30 p. m.*

General HANCOCK:

Warren moves at 4 a. m. by our left to get on to the Weldon road and with instructions to take advantage of any weakness he may discover in the lines of the enemy. This may lead to the withdrawal of troops from your front. Watch closely and take advantage of anything you can.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

SIGNAL STATION,
August 17, 1864.

General HANCOCK:

Major Ludlow, of General Butler's staff, with 800 men, landed at Aiken's and marched north, meeting a small brigade of rebels. Had slight skirmish, and, wheeling to the left, took the rifle-pits and deserted battery opposite Dutch Gap. He holds Cox's Mill and the bend forming Cox's farm. General B[utler] orders him to retire this evening to Dutch Gap, as the retaining of the ridge will need more men than can be spared. The rebel rams are at Cox's Reach opposite the farm, and shelling the ridge with no success. The Howlett battery has opened on the Crow's Nest battery.

SIDNEY B. DE KAY,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp to General Butler.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 212. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Deep Bottom, Va., August 17, 1864.

1. Upon the commendation of the medical director of the corps Brig. Gen. F. C. Barlow, commanding First Division, will at once proceed to the corps hospital at City Point for medical treatment.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 17, 1864.

There will be a flag of truce, for the burial of the dead and the removal of the wounded, between the hours of 4 and 6 this p. m. by the Confederate time, which is half an hour slower than our own. Major Mitchell, aide-de-camp, will be at the point designated, and will determine the time. The dead and wounded will be collected by the ambulance department, and no one else will be permitted to communicate or to approach the picket-line. The dead and wounded will be delivered at Fussell's Mill.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 17, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move to-morrow morning at 4 o'clock and endeavor to make a lodgment upon the Weldon railroad, in the vicinity of the Gurley house, or as much nearer to the enemy's line of intrenchments as practicable, and destroy the road as far as you can, carrying on the destruction as far south as possible. In addition to the destruction of the railroad the movement should be considered a reconnaissance in force, in which you will take advantage of any weakness of the enemy that you may perceive; but it is not expected that you will fight under serious disadvantages or assault fortifications. If you find the enemy extended along the railroad, showing an intrenched front wherever you move against them, you will remain, holding them there, keeping up your supplies. You will take with you four days' rations on the person, your artillery, and part of your ambulances and medical wagons, parking your trains at convenient and secure points in rear of the army. General Kautz is directed to place under your orders his brigade of cavalry (two regiments), picketing from the infantry left to the Blackwater, which you will dispose of so as best to aid your operations. Information derived from prisoners captured on the north side of the James indicates that nearly all the enemy's cavalry have been withdrawn from the south side of the James, and that the infantry force south of the Appomattox is considerably less than four divisions. The major-general commanding desires to impress on you that he will be unable to send you any re-enforcements, and that you must depend entirely upon your own resources. The only assistance you can derive from the troops in our intrenchments will be that of obliging the enemy to maintain his line. Keep the commanding general well advised of the progress of your operations and of everything important.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 17, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

Colonel Pitkin, quartermaster at City Point, has forwarded to you 440 sets of implements for destroying railroad.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 17, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

The following dispatch* from Lieutenant-General Grant is sent for your information and guidance. The commanding general directs that you strike the Weldon railroad as near the enemy's intrenchments as practicable, extend your reconnaissance as far to the left as you can, and, if a good opportunity occurs, carry out the instructions sent you last night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

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* See Grant to Meade, 10 p. m., p. 245.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 17, 1864—11 p. m.

[Major-General HUMPHREYS:]

GENERAL: I did intend to send you this dispatch in the morning, which I had already written. The dispatch by Major Michler induces me to send it now. I will do all I can toward any vulnerable point. I do not believe the enemy will leave Petersburg open to assault in the daytime, unless he evacuates it entirely the night before.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 106. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 17, 1864.

The order received last night for the corps to move at 3 o'clock this morning having been suspended, and the order of suspension being very indefinite, the major-general commanding did not feel authorized to announce it. He does so now for the information of the command, in order to let the men get their coffee.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 107. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 17, 1864.

The corps will move to-morrow at 4 a. m. and in the following order: Griffin's division, Ayres' division, Crawford's division, and Cutler's division. The batteries, as previously assigned to the several divisions, will move with them. The reserve artillery and one-half of the ambulances and one medicine wagon for each division will march in rear of the corps. No ordnance trains, battery wagons, nor forage wagons will accompany the column, nor will any baggage wagons be allowed except spring wagons. The baggage and other wagons left behind will be parked with the ordnance train. A staff officer will be sent to each division in the morning to conduct it.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
August 17, 1864—9 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on my front during the day. Brigadier-General Potter, commanding Second Division, reports the enemy erecting earth-works in rear of their first line opposite the right of his division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding Ninth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 17, 1864.

Capt. ROBERT A. HUTCHINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred on my line during the last twelve hours. My men have been busy repairing the lines.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 17, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding:

GENERAL: I have received the accompanying communication from Maj. Gen. W. H. F. Lee, Confederate cavalry. Please instruct me as to a reply.

Yours, respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 17, 1864.

General GREGG, or
OFFICER COMMANDING FEDERAL CAVALRY:

GENERAL: I am led to believe, from statements of prisoners captured yesterday, that Brig. Gen. J. R. Chambliss of my command may have been killed during the action. Should such prove to be the fact, I have the honor to request that you will inform me whether any arrangement may be effected by which I may obtain possession of his body.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. F. LEE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 17, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. H. F. LEE,
Commanding Confederate Cavalry:

GENERAL: In reply to your communication of this date, I have to reply that in the action of yesterday Brig. Gen. J. R. Chambliss was killed. The body will be delivered at Fussell's Mill between the hours of 4 and 6 this p. m. If, however, it should not be found practicable to exhume it the accompanying description of the place of burial will enable the friends of General Chambliss, at a subsequent period, to find his grave.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Major-General Hancock has directed me to furnish you the following description of the place at which Brigadier-General Chambliss is buried:

Brig. Gen. John R. Chambliss is buried at the Pottery, near where road crosses Bailey's Creek. His grave is directly in front of the house (hotel), about thirty feet from the road and ten feet from corner of ice-house. Headboard at his grave marked, "Brigadier-General John R. Chambliss, C. S. A., killed in battle August 16, 1864, buried by Third Brigade, Third Division, Second Corps." General Chambliss' body is inclosed in a wooden coffin.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. G. MITCHELL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 17, 1864—4.15 p. m.

General GREGG:

You can say to General Lee that in the truce, between 4 and 6 o'clock at Fussell's Mill, General Chambliss' body will be delivered then; or, if it should not be exhumed at the time, you can send him the memorandum sent you this morning, showing where General C. was buried.* There need not be a truce at your line except for the purpose of sending this communication. The Confederate time, which will govern the truce, is half an hour slower than ours.

By order of Major-General Hancock:
FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 17, 1864—7 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

We hold our own at Dutch Gap. At what time will you go up and see the ground? Shall I call for you with the Greyhound?
BENJ. F. BUTLER.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 17, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

I have directed General Barnard and Colonel Comstock to go up to Dutch Gap. They have not yet started, but will go as soon as they get breakfast.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See next, *ante*.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 17, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding, &c.:

We have now on the north side of the James, Field's division of Longstreet's corps, Lane's and Conner's brigades of Wilcox's division of Hill's corps, and Mahone's division of same corps, with Bushrod Johnson's old brigade of Beauregard's command. Mahone's division moved across there from our front at Petersburg on Sunday night, making a long detour in order to avoid observation from my signal tower.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 17, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

The Fifth Corps commences a movement by our left at 4 a. m. in the morning, with the intention of getting onto the Weldon road, and to take advantage of any weakness that may be discovered in the lines of the enemy. If this should lead to a withdrawal from your front be prepared to throw all your force at Bermuda into the breach, and I will recall everything from north of the James to reinforce them.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 17, 1864—10.40 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Telegram received. The most vigilant watchfulness will be had to ascertain any withdrawal, and the promptest movement made to take advantage of it. Major Ludlow has withdrawn without loss from his advanced position near Dutch Gap. The firing you hear is from the gun-boats upon the rams.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HATCHER'S, *August 17, 1864—7.30 a. m.*

General BUTLER:

The position is stronger than I supposed. It should be held. I have only sufficient to keep up a strong picket-line.

LUDLOW,
Major.

SIGNAL HILL, *August 17, 1864.*

General BUTLER:

Two gun-boats have opened from above our outer line.

LUDLOW,
Major.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
In the Field, August 17, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

I have prisoners here from Wright's brigade, of Mahone's division, of Hill's corps. They say that they think their whole division is there. They know that Weisiger's, Wright's, and Perrin's are. I have also prisoners from Lane's and Conner's, of Wilcox's, on north side of James, and full information from Thomas' and Scales', who are in our front here. This makes all of Wilcox here. I have also four prisoners this morning from Bushrod R. Johnson's old brigade, Colonel Hughs commanding, in our front at Deep Bottom.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp, and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

P. S.—Since writing above have received your dispatch. The prisoners you speak of confirm my report, you will see, or mine yours. The men captured by Tenth Corps should have been landed at Bermuda, but by mistake were sent you.

J. I. D.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 17, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports that three trains passed the Junction toward Richmond last night and one toward Petersburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 17, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports that "at 11.30 a. m. a train of six cars loaded with troops passed the Junction toward Petersburg."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

AUGUST 17, 1864. (Received 2.30 p. m.)

Colonel ABBOT,
Broadway Landing:

Send up the four 10-inch mortars to-night and place them in the large battery near Taylor house. Six siege guns are also required in Fort Hell. Send them up if you can to-night, with ammunition. It would

be well to land more mortars. The enemy are greatly strengthening their armament near the salient, and with guns of large caliber. As much of your train as can be quickly removed in case of necessity should be put in battery.

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *August 17, 1864—3 p. m.*

Brigadier-General HUNT,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

I will send the mortars to-night, and will get the six guns ready for to-morrow. I cannot get them unloaded and to Fort Hell before daylight.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery, Commanding Siege Train.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 17, 1864—5.30 a. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to say that last evening he directed certain dispositions to be made of the troops under your command, and a report to be made of such action. He has not been advised of what has been done in the matter, and desires to know the arrangement of your troops, and whether the brigades loaned you are in position on the line or so that they can be called away easily if required.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 17, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Forces:

The brigade of the Second Division, Second Corps, is posted on the left of General Foster, in close connection with its own division on its left. The brigade of the First Division, Second Corps, is on the right of Brigadier-General Birney, connecting on its right with Brigadier-General Miles and reporting to him. Colonel Craig's brigade is on my line, and can be taken away this morning; last night it was disorganized. Colonel Smyth's brigade reports to him and is on his own line.

Yours, respectfully,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 17, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding regrets to say that not a single wounded man was found between the lines to-day. The flag of truce was consented to by him reluctantly, and only on General Birney's assurance that the facts were that our own and the enemy's wounded were between the lines, exposed to the fire of both parties, and could be removed by neither.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 17, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

In answer to your dispatch concerning the flag of truce sent out to-day, I would respectfully state that I am not aware of having given any assurances in respect to the wounded beyond what is contained in my note of this morning, viz, that they were under the enemy's fire and ours. This information was given by the corps officer of the day. The party bearing the flag was not suffered to advance beyond our picket-line.

Respectfully,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 17, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

One small brigade, having lost heavily and become somewhat disorganized, has been sent to Deep Bottom to relieve the garrison there, which is ordered here in their place. The force to take the place of that leaving this front consists of two strong regiments.

Respectfully,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 17, 1864—3.27 p. m.

A flag of truce will be sent out to the enemy at 4 p. m. to-day, from which time until 6 p. m. there will be a cessation of hostilities. You will see to it that no person goes out but the properly authorized parties.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Commanding Line of Defenses:

I send inclosed a telegram* from the lieutenant-general commanding for your information. Take every possible precaution and device to have the enemy watched to see if any movement is made. If at all, it will be to-morrow at from 6 to 10 o'clock, or thereafter probably. Please return telegram at your leisure.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Commanding Intrenchments, Bermuda Hundred:

Order Colonel Washburn, Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, with his entire mounted force, to come here immediately. He will carefully scour the roads and woods on his way for stragglers, especially on this side the pontoon bridge, and bring them to their commands.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, August 17, 1864—11.50 p. m.

Colonel CURTIS,
Commanding Brigade, &c.:

COLONEL: The lieutenant-general telegraphs that movements are on foot which he thinks will cause the enemy to withdraw troops from our front. The major-general therefore directs that every measure be taken to determine it if possible.

This by direction of Brigadier-General Turner:

Very respectfully,

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Captain, Forty-seventhNew York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 17, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I return the map. As I stated to you this morning I can make no changes. The roads I have traveled on are indicated on the map, as well as all other roads of which I have any information. Whether there are any others I do not know from any observation of mine.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Cavalry Division.

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* See Grant to Butler, p. 255.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 17, 1864—3 p. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

Major-General Warren is ordered to move to-morrow morning at 4 o'clock and endeavor to effect a lodgment upon the Weldon railroad as near to the enemy's intrenchments as practicable, and destroy the road as far south as he can. He will take advantage of any weakness he may perceive on the part of the enemy. To aid him in this operation the major-general commanding directs that you place under his orders the brigade of your cavalry (two regiments) picketing from the left of the infantry, which should be provided with the full amount of rations and forage they can carry, and arrangements made to keep up the supply. General Warren is directed to take four days' rations and to keep up supplies, should the operation continue longer. Should you accompany the brigade please advise the commanding general. Information derived from prisoners indicates that nearly all the enemy's cavalry have been withdrawn from the south side of the James.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 17, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have been directed to furnish two regiments of cavalry to report to you. The two regiments now picketing on the left of the army are those indicated in the orders to me. Colonel Lewis, Third New York Cavalry, will be the senior officer. I have sent him an order to report to you for orders. The two regiments will number between 800 and 900 in all. Colonel Lewis' headquarters are near the Jerusalem plank road, at McCann's house. The two regiments are on picket, and extend to the left to near Baxter's Mill, on the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad. They have been ordered to hold themselves in readiness to march at 4 a. m. to-morrow with three days' rations and two days' forage.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 17, 1864—4 p. m.

Col. S. P. SPEAR,
Commanding Brigade:

The general commanding directs that you cause the First District of Columbia Cavalry to be prepared to move to-morrow morning, 18th instant, at 4 o'clock, provided with ammunition and three days' rations and forage, their pickets to be withdrawn just before the regiment moves. Further instructions will be sent you this evening.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. J. ASCH,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 18, 1864—8 p. m.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

General Warren moved with his corps this morning to and across the Weldon road about one mile south of the lead-works. To that point he met nothing but the enemy's pickets. He advanced from there toward Petersburg, meeting the enemy early in his advance. He had considerable fighting during the day, suffering some loss and inflicting loss upon the enemy. I have no report showing the extent of our losses, but judge them to be light, from the dispatches. Some of the enemy's wounded fell into our hands and a few other prisoners.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 18, 1864—1.48 a. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

General Grant desires me to ask what the heavy firing is.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—2.15 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel COMSTOCK:

The firing is in front of the Ninth Corps. No report has been made, but I have sent for one.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—2.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel COMSTOCK:

The cannonading and mortar practice was along the whole line—Eighteenth and Ninth Corps. No one seems to know how it began or the cause. It is probably the enemy feeling to see if we are still here. It is now subsiding.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 18, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Have you heard what progress General Warren is making?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Telegram of 10.30 received. The last dispatch from General Warren of 8.20 is forwarded.* Whenever General Warren reports anything of importance it will be promptly transmitted.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

P. S.—I am having the telegraph run out to the Gurley house.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The following just received from General Warren.† The Seventh Virginia Cavalry is in Rosser's brigade, Young's division, formerly Hampton's division, it being understood Hampton now commands all the cavalry.

[GEO. G. MEADE,]
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I send the last report‡ just received from General Warren. Since its receipt quite sharp cannonading is heard in his direction, but no report of progress.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 18, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

If Warren can do no better I would have him close up on Petersburg, with his left west of the Weldon road, and intrench and stay there. So long as the enemy is occupied north of the James he can spare no force to drive Warren away. When we withdraw from there Hancock can go to his support, and the Tenth Corps will relieve the Eighteenth from the trenches, giving us another corps foot loose. I do not mean this in any way to prevent Warren from taking advantage of any weakness of the enemy according to his judgment.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See p. 272.
† See Warren to Humphreys, 9 a. m., p. 272.
‡ See Warren to Humphreys, 10 a. m., p. 272.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Respectfully forwarded.* Your telegram of 12 m. received. I will await the developments of the day before sending Warren any instruction based on it. Indeed, his orders last night contemplate his making and retaining a lodgment on the railroad.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have endeavored to ascertain the probable cause of the heavy cannonading last night, but without success. It commenced a little before 2 a. m., on the right of the Eighteenth Corps, by the enemy, and was quickly taken up by all their batteries to our left, and as quickly responded to by ours. The enemy, in the afternoon previous, told the pickets of the Ninth Corps not to be alarmed in the night because they were going to shell the negroes. The probabilities are that they suspected some movement on our part which they thought they might interrupt, or they suspected we were or had been withdrawing and they would draw our fire. From all I can learn the casualties on our side are: Ninth Corps, 2 killed, 10 wounded; Eighteenth Corps, 5 killed, 15 wounded; in all, 7 killed, 25 wounded. I have given orders hereafter our batteries are not to open at night unless there is evidence they are able to accomplish something.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 18, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following report just received:

PLANK ROAD STATION, *August 18, 1864—1.30 p. m.*

Cannonading on our left, apparently on line of Weldon railroad, one mile and a half south of large fort near Weldon railroad. Five hundred cavalry standing in road in front of said fort. Column of infantry now passing on line of Weldon railroad in direction of firing.

FULTON,
Sergeant.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—3.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I forward the above just received. No dispatch from Warren since the one sent you at 1.15 p. m. Heavy musketry firing, as well as cannonading, has recently been heard in that direction.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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*See Warren to Humphreys, 11 a. m., p. 273.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—4 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The above [following], just received, was sent before the attack of which I have reported musketry and cannonading. No sounds now. As there appears to be a division of the enemy's cavalry on the railroad, I have ordered Kautz to draw in another of his regiments, leaving only one between the Blackwater Swamp and the James:

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

My infantry has not yet succeeded in driving away the enemy from his position on the railroad, but has forced him to draw back the artillery from its first position. We have not engaged heavily, but soon will be if the enemy's force does not retire. I think General Ayres is moving as well as he can. The enemy's cavalry are south of us on the railroad, and the main camps of the division were said by the prisoners to be about two or three miles west of the railroad. The position here is a large open, level field, about three-fourths of a mile through, and surrounded by woods.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

P. S.—I have just received the note brought by Captain Fisher about the cavalry. If any pickets were going to take their place, I would rather have them there than with me.

G. K. W.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—4.10 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Just received and forwarded.*

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—5 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Just received and forwarded.† This appears to have been an open fight, the enemy attacking, and Warren further reports them moving down on his left flank. He has two divisions beside those reported by him as engaged. I fancy he will not be able to do more than effect a lodgment on the road and that the enemy will vigorously dispute this.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

P. S.—There has been no firing since the fight here reported.

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* See Warren to Humphreys, 1.30 p. m., p. 273.
† See Warren to Humphreys, 2.30 p. m., p. 273.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—6 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Warren is directed to maintain his hold and intrench himself. When may we look for Hancock?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 18, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

I think it will be advisable to hold Hancock where he is until to-morrow night. I will direct him if he can hold his position to send one division to-night.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—7.15 p. m.

General GRANT:

Warren can hold his own, I think, and may perhaps yet push the enemy. I ought to have mentioned that, when he spoke of Ayres' division, he referred to the Maryland Brigade, which he had previously reported as giving way.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—7.20 p. m.

General GRANT:

The following just received from Warren and forwarded.*

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 18, 1864—8.20 p. m.*

General MEADE:

General Hancock has ordered General Mott's division to report to you.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—9.30 p. m.

General GRANT:

I send you the last dispatch received from Warren.† Parke has been ordered to relieve the maximum force he can with Mott's division, and push them up at once to Warren's support.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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*See Warren to Humphreys, 5.30 p. m., p. 274.
†See Warren to Humphreys, 7 p. m., p. 275.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 18, 1864—7.40 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

General Hancock will probably send a division to-night. I will let you know as soon as he ascertains if it can be spared. The distance between Hancock and Warren is so great that it would take until 12 to-morrow to transfer troops from one to the other, and then they would be too much fatigued to do much. Could not re-enforcements be sent from the Ninth Corps to Warren, if he should want them, and let the Second Corps take their place? If the enemy pile any considerable force against Warren to-morrow they must do it by taking nearly everything from their line in front of the Ninth and Eighteenth Corps, and must be met by an equal reduction of our line.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *August 18, 1864—11.15 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Tell Warren if the enemy comes out and attacks him in the morning not to hesitate about taking out every man he has to repel it; and not to stop when the enemy is repulsed, but to follow him up to the last. We certainly ought to be satisfied, when we can get the enemy to attack us.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—12.05 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The foregoing dispatch, just received, is sent to you for your information, as desired by the lieutenant-general commanding.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: No deserters or prisoners of war have come in to-day. I will inquire immediately if any have come in at the Ninth Corps. One deserter from Sixth Virginia Infantry came in yesterday from General Crawford's headquarters, where he had been since Saturday last. There were others from his brigade who came into our lines at the same time he did, and all information which he might have given was reported at the time by other members of his regiment. General Crawford kept him for the purpose of having him point out certain batteries in the enemy's works, the location of which are all known by the engineer department at these headquarters. He brings nothing new.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 18, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: A deserter from Ninth Florida, Finegan's brigade, Mahone's division, who came into our lines on night of the 16th instant, has just been received from Ninth Corps. He reports that he went on picket on night of 16th; that just before leaving the trenches Mahone's old brigade was relieved by Harris' brigade. Wright's and Perrin's brigades went away from here on Sunday, and the balance of the division were in our front when he left. The informant is quite a youth, and knows very little of enemy's organization or position. A negro who came in last night was also sent in with above. He states that just before leaving enemy's lines (about dark) saw them moving artillery to their right, and he understood they intended opening on a camp of our troops, which they could see from their right flank. He has been at work in a gang of 1,500 negroes repairing and constructing fortifications about Petersburg. He is not intelligent and gives no information.

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864.

Captain FISHER:

Small parties of enemy at work behind old line to right of Gregory's house. Three battle-flags to left of Gregory's house; formerly only one in view.

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Captain FISHER:

A small force of enemy is moving to the left in the direction of the cannonading. They are moving about opposite plank road signal station and evidently come from the camp nearly opposite that station. They carry knapsacks, &c. I have seen only about 100 in motion.

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 18, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following report just received:

GIBBON'S HOUSE, *August 18, 1864.*

Saw drove of between 200 and 300 beef-cattle on Richmond road moving south Enemy's signal officer reports all quiet; no vessels visible on the river.

JORDAN,
Sergeant.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

By order:

WM. S. STRYKER,
First Lieutenant and Adjutant Signal Corps.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 18, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Another division of infantry moved to our left on line of Weldon railroad between 4 and 4.30 p. m., accompanied by a train of twenty-five wagons. Column seventeen minutes in passing. The column reported passing at 1.30 p. m. consisted of about two brigades.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 18, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Major-General HANCOCK:

If you can hold your position with a division less than you have, send one division to-night, starting as soon as you can get it off, to report to General Meade.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I will send General Mott's division to report to General Meade.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 18, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK:

There has been a requisition made for 500 horses for the Second Cavalry Division. There are now at Washington about 1,000 men of this division dismounted. Ask Gregg if he will have 500 men sent with the horses or if he will have the horses sent and leave the men until they can be remounted. It is reported that the mail steamer has been fired into below here. Get a brigade of Gregg's cavalry ready, if you can, to go down and cut off the enemy. I will make full inquiry about the matter and inform you; in the meantime have the cavalry ready, but do not start them until further orders.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your dispatch is received, and General Gregg has been sent for to make the arrangements you propose.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Gregg reports that he would prefer having 500 horses sent to City Point, as he has now at this time more than 500 dismounted men.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 18, 1864.*

General HANCOCK:

It turns out to be a mistake about there being a rebel battery below here. The firing heard was our gun-boats discharging their guns.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—6.40 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The enemy have been feeling my lines and have made some pretty sharp attacks on my front and right. They still continue it on my right, but at this moment slight.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Same to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—7 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your dispatch is received. The enemy are very vigorous. I have just received a dispatch stating that the enemy have possession of the roads in General Gregg's rear, and that they have passed cavalry and infantry toward Malvern Hill, threatening my hold on the river, which is now essential to me. I can only send a division by shortening my lines, so as to render my connection with the river secure. I shall change my lines to-night to meet the new state of things, and will send a division if you do not object to my contracting my lines. I will telegraph you a little later.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 18, 1864—7.40 p. m.*

General HANCOCK:

I have no objection to your shortening your line to make your position secure.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 18, 1864—11 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Everything is quiet. At [this] time I am changing my line a little, the general direction being that of the New Market road. By withdrawing my right I have taken out a division and still have a heavy force on my right, with which I shall make a demonstration on the Charles City road to-morrow. The enemy attacked with considerable force on General Birney's right just above Fussell's Mill, but were repulsed. They attacked Gregg on the roads coming in from White Oak Swamp and drove him, though he still holds the intersection of the Charles City and Malvern Hill roads, the enemy holding between the cross-road and Deep Bottom Creek. I shall clear out whatever may be there in the morning.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 18, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The last report I had from the enemy to-night was one that came from the picket-line just after their repulse, to the effect they were moving at double-quick toward my right.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—7.30 p. m.

The following dispositions of troops are ordered for to-night: Colonel Smyth, commanding Second Division, will relieve the pickets of General Mott's division, and will hold the line from the Potteries, on the New Market and Malvern Hill road, to the right. The First Division, Brigadier-General Miles commanding, to hold the line from Colonel Smyth's right along the New Market and Long Bridge road, occupying as much of the old intrenchments as he can hold. The Tenth Corps, Major-General Birney, will take position on General Miles' right, occupying the heights about the Ruffin house and crossing the New Market and Long Bridge road. The picket lines of the Second and First Divisions will remain as established now. General Birney will establish a line from General Miles' right, taking in the high ground near the Turner house and extending the front of his position at Ruffin's house and connecting with the cavalry. General Gregg, commanding cavalry, will cover the Charles City road as far to the front as practicable, and watching the roads to the right and rear. On being relieved by the Second Division, General Mott will move with his division to the vicinity of Petersburg, reporting to General Meade. These arrangements to go into effect at once, so as to complete the movement to-night.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Near Deep Bottom, Va., August 18, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General MILES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you withdraw from the right one of your brigades and place it near its former position on the line, notifying General Birney as you do so.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[AUGUST 18, 1864.]

Colonel SMYTH,
Commanding Second Division:

You will please relieve at once the picket-line of General Mott's division. General Miles will, during the night, relieve a portion of your right, so as to equalize more nearly your details.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Chief of Staff.

This only includes the line in General Mott's front, and not the one on the Malvern Hill road.

M.

AUGUST 18, 1864. (Received 8.20 p. m.)

General MOTT:

The major-general commanding directs that you put your command in march for the vicinity of Petersburg as soon as possible, reporting your arrival to Major-General Meade. Your picket-line will be relieved by Colonel Smyth's division. The brigade near the bridge-head may be relieved by you, so as to place it last in march, if it is not previously relieved by other troops. It is hoped the road you are to take to the Appomattox will be lighted. You will try and get your division across the bridge at the Appomattox before daylight.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—4 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I was exceedingly pleased with my instructions for the movement I am just starting upon. I have shown them to some of my division commanders and all alike are pleased. We'll do the best we can, you may rest assured, and will never ask anyone under them to stand the responsibility of a possible failure. I propose to send a message regularly once an hour; oftener if interesting.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Gurley House, August 18, 1864—7 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The head of my column is closing up and forming here as near as we can to the enemy's vedettes without his observation. As soon as I am well in hand and prepared to follow up rapidly I shall advance. There has been nothing to report this morning. Our cavalry here have no information except that the enemy's pickets last night told them they were to be relieved this morning. The two regiments of cavalry are so distributed on picket that none of them will be available until I can drive away the enemy and relieve those to the right of us.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

GURLEY HOUSE, *August 18, 1864—8.20 a. m.*

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My arrangements are made and my line is now advancing. I will report as soon as anything occurs. The cavalry pickets retire.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Our advance encountered nothing but cavalry, and captured some of them from the Seventh Confederate. My troops have reached the railroad and cut the telegraph wire. The intense heat causes many men to fall out.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have two divisions up and nearly formed. Marching to-day is very slow, and there are a great many cases of sunstroke. I am pushing out in every direction to make myself secure in my information. As soon as I am prepared, will move up the railroad. I am now at the place on the west of the railroad marked on the map as Blick.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your two dispatches of 7 and 8.20 a. m. have been received. Respecting the two regiments of cavalry it was expected that you would call them all in whenever it suited your own objects best without any regard to their objects as pickets of the army.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: My last division has just reached the railroad. I have got possession of the forks of the road at the place marked Flowers. General Ayres' division now has the lead and is advancing up the railroad. There is a cavalry force about three-quarters of a mile ahead with a battery. I shall endeavor to open connection from my right, as I advance, with the left of the Ninth Corps. The men give out fearfully in the sun and compel us to move slowly to keep them in the ranks. Several officers have been sunstruck also.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy hold on firmly to their position yet, but I am extending my line till I can turn their left flank. Where I strike them along the roads they are intrenched. General Ayres has not perfected his arrangements yet nor made his final effort, and so far our losses are small. I have no chance to use my artillery to any advantage, and but four guns at most. It has rained hard here now for fifteen minutes.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I was just advancing at 2 p. m., with Ayres' and Crawford's divis ions, when the enemy advanced simultaneously with us. The Maryland Brigade, on my left, gave way, but I believe the rest of the line holds them or has sent them back. It was a heavy fight for half an hour; at present it is nearly quiet. The enemy's infantry are reported passing down the road toward Flowers', my cavalry having been driven away from there.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: The falling back of General Ayres' division has deranged my plans considerably and I am getting things in order again. We lost a little ground and probably a few prisoners and some hundreds wounded. The enemy I expect lost quite as heavily, and has been compelled to fall back, too, to near his first position. Reports of the enemy moving on both flanks come in but cannot be true. I have ordered Ayres and Crawford to advance again, the former supported by General Cutler's division. Having to rely entirely upon myself I keep Griffin still in reserve to look out for flank attacks. My picket-line connects across by cavalry with the Ninth Corps. I do not at all anticipate it can be driven by the enemy, and will endeavor to advance if practicable. The enemy's infantry is of Heth's division, so I learn by prisoners, but they are not communicative. Hill, they say, is in command. If I am still on the railroad I shall take up a position to-night and intrench unless otherwise directed.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Kautz has been directed to re-enforce the cavalry under your orders by another regiment, about 400 men.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that, if the contingent objects of your instructions cannot be accomplished, you intrench as close up to the enemy's works as you can get, with your left well westward of the Weldon railroad, and remain there. This is not intended to prevent you from taking advantage of any weakness of the enemy or of withdrawing your command if in your judgment military necessity requires it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Blick's House, August 18, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: Your dispatch per Captain Emory is just received. I have nothing further to report except that my skirmish line, in advancing, finds the enemy in the same line he took up to-day. We have to

advance on the right through dense woods, which makes it slow and difficult, as it is almost impossible to command the men there. I cannot say how much our loss is yet. Colonel Peirson, of the Thirty-ninth Massachusetts, is said to be mortally wounded.* We have some of the enemy's wounded in our possession. General Hayes had his horse killed. The Fifteenth [New York] Heavy Artillery have behaved remarkably well.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have already got my line as close to the enemy as I can and made arrangements for intrenching it. My pickets connect with the Ninth Corps across nearly east and west from the Strong house. The enemy is throwing up breast-works between me and Petersburg, and already has a good line. I think I can hold on here for a hard fight if I can keep up the communication with the Ninth Corps. It has been a hard day on the men and the fight to-day was severe on both sides. My right is in sight of the main intrenchments of Petersburg, but nearly one mile and three-quarters off. I understand that I am expected to make myself as strong here as I can, hold on till I am forced to leave, and destroy the railroad as much as possible. Unfortunately, the wet weather will interfere very much with our heating the rails. The telegraph line may get in operation to-night. The enemy advanced to-day at 2 p. m. in two lines for the front of one of my divisions, perhaps 6,000 men. We broke the first line at once, but the second forced ours back, outflanking Ayres by a portion giving way on his left. His division, however, finally repulsed the attack on him. General Crawford did not receive so heavy an assault except on his left, and this was the only part of his line that gave back, but it also advanced again. The enemy's proximity to his fortified line enabled him to act with boldness, and I do not now think he considered us strong and made his effort to drive us from the railroad. He has taken some prisoners from us to-day and now knows our strength. If he tries again, it will have to be with a very large force to succeed.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I will send up a sketch of my line to-night by an orderly. You can have a good idea of my front toward Petersburg by taking a point on the Weldon railroad three-quarters of a mile north of Dunlop's and drawing a line direct to our advanced line on the plank road. Our pickets will not have more than half a mile to connect straight across and it will be done in the morning. My fire commands half a mile west of the railroad. My line extends south of Dunlop's nearly a mile and

* Colonel Peirson survived his wound.

my pickets there connect with the cavalry. From an examination of a few prisoners I find they belong to the Seventh Confederate Cavalry, to Heth's division, and to Hoke's brigade, of Beauregard. Prisoners are not very willing to communicate, but they say there are troops of Beauregard's in reserve in Petersburg all the time. I have directed the prisoners to be sent up to you.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: By laying the inclosed sketch* on your two-inch map you can see exactly our present position. My artillery is so disposed that it of itself will be able to hold considerable portions of my line. You must excuse my hasty and disjointed dispatches to-day, for I had to write with all the interruptions of severe battle and movements.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

As soon as Mott's division, of Hancock's corps, can be got over from Deep Bottom he will relieve some 5,000 or 6,000 of Parke's troops that will be sent at once to your support. Mott is moving now. Parke will also send you in the course of the night or toward morning some 1,500 men. They will move as soon as they can be relieved by some of Ord's troops.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The 1,500 men from Parke will leave him about 3 a. m. to join you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR, No. 107½. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864.

All the timber west of our position on the railroad and between it and the Vaughan road, as well as all other obstructions to the use of fire-arms, or furnishing shelter to the enemy, such as houses, fences, &c., will be thrown down or destroyed as fast as practicable.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*See Part I, p. 433.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General AYRES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: If you have any rebel prisoners in your custody the major-general commanding desires that they be sent to the corps provost-marshal at these headquarters to-night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—8 p. m.

General AYRES:

I have orders approving what has been done this evening, and telling me to feel the enemy closely and hold on. I learn that your changes this evening leave but a battalion of Bragg's brigade on the line. If in the morning at daylight you can replace this by the Twelfth Regulars I can use this brigade to re-enforce Crawford, which I desire to do. He has pushed his right up to within sight of the Petersburg defenses, and can connect with the pickets of the Ninth Corps in only an interval of half a mile. Have your men slash timber in their front to-night.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 18, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding:

GENERAL: I can dispense entirely with Bragg's brigade. I have ordered intrenching and slashing. I don't doubt of my ability to hold my front in the morning. I have ordered a deep cut across the railroad and the wagon road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General.

FRIEND'S, [*August*] *18, 1864—3.10 p. m.*

Major-General WARREN:

GENERAL: The enemy are pushing me on my right. I can hold them, I think, although that flank is not covered. I have ordered Cutler to deploy to the right and strike his left flank. It is all woods, but a report has just reached me that the enemy is moving to my right; hence the order to Cutler. I am well deployed to the right for observation.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—Colonel Carle reports that the enemy are feeling our right, and a prisoner reports A. P. Hill's corps.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—8 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

You have done very well indeed in getting forward through that difficult country so far. Make yourself as strong as you can and hold on. I will try and re-enforce you by Bragg's brigade in the morning, and establish direct connection with the Ninth Corps pickets. We are going to hold on here.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 18, 1864.

[Major General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:]

GENERAL: I think the corn-field on our right can be carried by a vigorous effort to-morrow, if you should consider it desirable. The enemy will work hard to-night, and indeed was at work on his line when I advanced this afternoon. I have two brigades in line of battle, but the line is not a long one, as the First Brigade lost heavily when its flank was turned early in the action. There is a portion of the line unsupported. I sent the Eighty-eighth Pennsylvania to support my right, which I propose to refuse before daylight. If my right is covered a section of artillery can be used to advantage in any attack upon the enemy's position in the corn-field. My loss has been severe in officers and men.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—This note was written before yours was received. I am gratified that you are satisfied with the advance made to-day. It was very hard work.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—2.20 a. m.

General PARKE:

Is there anything more than cannonading intended by the enemy so far as you can ascertain?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to General Ord.)

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—2.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have sent out to the division commanders. As yet no report. As far as I can judge it has been simply a general cannonading. The reports of musketry continue the same as early in the night. Will forward reports from division commanders as soon as received.

J. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—2.50 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Generals Willcox and Ferrero report that cannonading began on our right by the enemy and extended to the left. But little musketry during the shelling. No report yet from left of our line.

J. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 18, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose copy of report of general of the trenches. All is quiet on my front this morning. About 1.30 o'clock this morning a heavy artillery fire was opened from both sides. It commenced on the right by the enemy, and gradually worked to the left until the entire front was engaged. From the new works of the enemy in front of the Third Division heavy mortar shells were thrown. This firing lasted, with more or less fury, until 3.30 o'clock. In the early part of the evening the enemy kept up an active musketry fire on the Third Division front. During the cannonading the rebel infantry fired a few shots in front of Second Division. General Potter, commanding Second Division, reports that his vedettes were warned by the enemy not to be alarmed if shells should fall in our lines before morning, as they intended shelling the negroes.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Will send list of casualties as soon as a report is received.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding wishes to know whether you have ascertained anything further as to the probable cause of the cannonading during the night, and also about the number of casualties that were incurred from it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to General Ord.)

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing definite has been ascertained as to the cause of the cannonading. General Potter reports that enemy's pickets warned ours yester-

day afternoon that not to be alarmed, they were going to shell the negroes. The casualties have not been reported in full. I think, however, they will be slight.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Major-General PARKE:

I am instructed to inform you that Major-General Warren had reached the Weldon railroad near Blick's house about 10 o'clock this morning and is making a reconnaissance in force on the enemy's right flank, with directions if he finds a favorable opportunity to try and carry their lines and gain the main ridge in rear of their front. The major-general commanding enjoins great vigilance on the part of your troops and prompt reports of any changes or movements on the part of the enemy that be observed, and that you be prepared, in the event of General Warren attacking the enemy's lines, to aid him by every means in your power and for such operations as the commanding general may find it desirable to undertake.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to General Ord.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—1.45 p. m.

Major-General PARKE, *Commanding Ninth Corps:*

General Warren, in a dispatch dated 11 a. m., from the Blick house, stated that he should throw out pickets to connect with yours. The commanding general directs that you throw forward that part of your picket-line where it is refused from the enemy and bring it up in the presence of the enemy's pickets, and connect with Warren's pickets.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
August 18, 1864—2.10 p. m. (Received 3 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

Dispatch of 1.45 received and its provisions will be carried out. I presume there are no maps that show the Blick house or upon which Warren's position may be indicated.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864.

Major-General PARKE:

Yes; the Blick house is down on the maps. Warren was near the Blick house at a house called Flowers' when he last reported, at 11 o'clock. He must have advanced considerably from that since. I will ask Duane to send you at once a copy of map containing the houses named.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—6.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The following dispatch just received from Captain Gowan, of my staff. I sent him out to establish the connection between General Warren and my left.

JOHN G. PARKE,
Major-General.

AUGUST 18, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have just seen General Warren and find his right too distant for us to connect with. He is on the railroad at the Blick house. We are now moving that portion of General White's brigade that was refused forward, keeping the right of the brigade fast. When this is done our left will be about a mile or a mile and a half from General W[arren]'s right. This interval is picketed by cavalry. This is the best we can do. I explained to General Warren how far we could come; he appeared satisfied, and said the cavalry would keep up the connection. General W[arren] does not seem to be very heavily engaged. There is a little artillery firing now.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. GOWAN,
Acting Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—8.15 p. m. (Received 8.30 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE:

A division of the Second Corps will be sent to-night from Deep Bottom to relieve some of your troops, which will be used to re-enforce Major-General Warren. The major-general commanding directs that you be prepared to withdraw one of your divisions and to send it to General Warren upon the arrival of the division of the Second Corps, which may not reach you until after daylight. The troops you send should have four days' rations on the person, some ambulances, some ammunition wagons, and proper proportion of intrenching tools. The commanding general desires that you will have in view the necessity that may arise of sending additional re-enforcements to General Warren from your lines should the enemy withdraw largely from their lines to attack him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Major-General PARKE:

General Mott's division is ordered to relieve a part of your troops. His division is about 5,000 strong. A staff officer from here will be sent you to learn at what points General Mott shall come up to your lines and then meet General Mott and conduct him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
August 18, 1864—9 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that nothing unusual has transpired on my front during the last twelve hours. General Potter, commanding Second Division, reports the enemy's picket-line strengthened during the day. The left of my line was swung round this p. m., as ordered. It was found impossible, on account of distance, to connect with the Fifth Corps. There is an interval of a mile, which is picketed by the Third New York Cavalry. General White, commanding First Division, reports that the commanding officer of his right brigade reports the enemy's force in his front moving to our left, they having been relieved by troops from the right.

JOHN G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—9.20 p. m.

Major-General PARKE:

How many men will you be able to relieve with Mott's division and send to Warren?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—9.45 p. m.

Major-General PARKE:

General Mott's division is between 5,000 and 6,000 strong. The commanding general desires you to send that number of your troops to General Warren. General Ord has some 1,500 men in reserve that he can dispense with. I will telegraph him to send them to you at once and that will relieve more of your troops that should go to Warren as soon as practicable. Please let him know where he shall send them.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I propose relieving General Potter's and General Willcox's divisions. They have about 4,000 men in the line. I propose to relieve the fatigue party, 500 men, that are now at work on the line. Is my order sufficient to relieve them?

JOHN G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Certainly; relieve the working party, and send at least as many men to Warren as are relieved by Ord and Mott.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general thinks it will be time enough to send the men that Ord's troops relieved at about 3 a. m. See that some one takes them by the shortest route to Warren, probably by the Strong house instead of the Williams house.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—10.50 p. m.

Major-General PARKE:

Have you any white troops to send in place of the 1,500 Ord will send you? They are white and black. Mott's division has 5,300 enlisted men and 300 officers.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864. (Received 11 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have white troops to send in place of the 1,500 Ord will send me, and also enough to send about the same number as will be relieved by General Mott. This will include all the white troops, and leave General Ferrero's division on the line and in the redoubts on the left.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 18, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am informed by General Humphreys that you are going to send me 1,500 men in the morning. Let them turn off at the Williams house. I intend also to establish a short picket-line from my right

to yours in front of the large redoubt in the morning, if I can. Please have your picket-line informed of the probability of my men approaching in that vicinity.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Humphreys.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I will send you at least 1,500 men in the morning. I propose starting them at 3 a. m., if relieved in season. I will notify General White, in command of my left division, of your intention in reference to the picket-line.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—11.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHITE,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Accompanying please find copy of a dispatch* received from General Warren. Will you please notify the officers commanding on your left of the general's intention in reference to the picket-line. Please have your command prepared to march to re-enforce General Warren to-morrow morning, in case you are relieved by other troops. Your troops should have four days' rations on their persons, and the men supplied with ammunition. A few ambulances should be taken along. If you are relieved it will be by a portion of General Mott's division, of the Second Corps, which will probably reach this place by daylight. Lieutenant-Colonel Coale, chief commissary, has ordered rations and will have them ready for distribution by 6 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Instead of carrying extra ammunition on the persons of the men take it in wagons. Take also a proper proportion of intrenching tools.

J. G. P.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
August 18, 1864—8 a. m.

Captain HUTCHINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in the early part of the evening the enemy kept up an active musketry fire on my front. At about 1.30 a. m. a furious cannonading broke out, beginning on the right, shot and shell being thrown at the batteries and rifle-pits, mostly 12-pounders, from nine points visible from Roemer's battery. Roemer,

*See Warren to Parke, 10 p. m., p. 283.

Twitchell, and Battery Morton were vigorously cannonaded, but no casualties are as yet reported. The fire lasted one hour and a half without cessation, after which it continued, with intermissions, until 3.30 o'clock.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
August 18, 1864.

Capt. ROBERT A. HUTCHINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that nothing unusual has transpired on my front during the last twelve hours, the same amount of picket-firing and sharpshooting being kept up as heretofore.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
August 18, 1864.

General FERRERO:

I inclose for your information a copy of an order * from army headquarters. Please be prepared to execute its provisions as early as practicable on receipt of orders.

Yours, respectfully,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FOURTH DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864.

Captain HICKS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Fourth Division, Ninth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the picket-firing in the early part of last evening was heavier than usual; also that about 1 o'clock this a. m. the enemy opened a very brisk artillery fire on our line which continued until near 4 o'clock, during which we had eight men wounded in the brigade.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. G. THOMAS,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864.

Colonel MORGAN,
Chief of Staff, Second Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report all quiet this morning, and that nothing new was observed during the night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

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* See Humphreys to Parke, 12.15 p. m., p. 280.

CITY POINT, *August 18, 1864.*
(Received 9.40 a. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires that you have the spare pontoon bridge, now at Deep Bottom, thrown across the river near the lower pontoon bridge so as to have two bridges with the best approaches that can be got for Hancock's use by dark to-night.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 18, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding, &c., City Point:

We are garrisoning Fort Powhatan and Fort Pocahontas (Wilson's Landing) with 100-days' men, whose time is now quite out. We want two regiments for that purpose. There must be now a large surplus of new regiments of 100-days' men and others in and about Washington and Baltimore. Can we not have some of these men, 100-days' regiments, ordered down? It will not do to lose either of these points. It would shut us off from the river.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 18, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

Wilcox's Wharf and Fort Powhatan must be held. No troops, however, can be had from Washington or Baltimore. They are calling on me for troops to take the place of those now there soon to be discharged. You will have to send some of your colored troops.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 18, 1864—10.50 a. m. (Received 11.20 a. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding, &c., City Point:

Did Warren make the move which was contemplated? We have heard nothing on our front. I have heard no report of any result from the rapid firing at Petersburg.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *August 18, 1864.*

General BUTLER:

Our forces reached the Weldon road, meeting nothing but cavalry. They captured a few men belonging to the Seventh Confederate Cavalry.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

(Copy to General Hancock.)

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 18, 1864—3.50 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding, &c., City Point:

I am informed from the lookout at Dutch Gap that a brigade of troops are crossing Cox's Ferry, going east.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 18, 1864—7.35 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer on Spring Hill reports that at 7.30 a. m. seven cars, partly loaded with troops, passed the Junction toward Richmond.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 18, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports that at 2.15 p. m. "three open cars loaded with railroad iron passed the Junction toward Richmond."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

WASHINGTON, *August 18, 1864—p. m.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Broadway Landing:

From 800 to 1,000 24-pounder shells are now shipped for you daily.

GEO. D. RAMSAY,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Ordnance.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Near Deep Bottom, August 18, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to advise you that General Miles has been ordered to withdraw one of his brigades from the right and place it near its former position. General Miles will

inform you of the time of withdrawing this brigade, so that you can make any further dispositions you deem necessary for the safety of your right.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 18, 1864—12 m.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Commanding Line of Intrenchments:

Warren moved this morning at 8.30, the enemy's pickets falling back before him.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel KENSEL, *Chief of Staff:*

Our casualties last night were 5 men killed, 1 officer and 14 men wounded.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—2.25 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

It is nothing but a cannonade and mortar practice, with no definite aim that I can tell.*

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

The enemy's fire was principally on our reserve camp in the rear. Owing to the men being in the trenches, the loss was slight—5 men killed, 1 officer and 14 men wounded.†

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864. (Received 2.40 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

I have in reserve three small brigades, principally colored. Shall I put them under arms?

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

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*In answer to Humphreys of 2.20 a. m.; see p. 278.
†In answer to Humphreys of 10.30 a. m.; see p. 279.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—3.40 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

Your dispatch in reference to reserves is received. The commanding general wishes you to exercise your own discretion in the matter. The last dispatch from General Warren was dated 11 a. m.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—9.50 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

The major-general commanding thinks your reserve of 1,500 men might be sent to General Parke's front and relieve some of his troops, which he will send at once to General Warren. Please communicate with General Parke, who is advised of this, and send the reserves as soon as practicable.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

Some of enemy's sharpshooters on opposite bank of Appomattox reported withdrawn this p. m. at 4 o'clock. Telegram to send reserve of 1,500 to relieve part of Ninth Corps received. Will send them.

ORD.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864—11.15 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have telegraphed to General Parke to send an officer to show my reserve the ground they are to occupy. The troops are ready to march. Difficulty in finding the ground and other delays will make it 2 or 3 o'clock before Parke's men will be relieved.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 18, 1864—10 p. m.

General PARKE:

I am directed to send you my reserve of 1,500 to relieve part of your corps. How much space will they have to occupy and who will show it to them?

ORD.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
August 18, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General ORD:

I am informed by Major-General Humphreys that you will relieve some of my men. I propose that you should relieve General Willcox. He has from 1,000 to 1,200 men on the line and will have an officer to show one of your officers the line to be occupied. His line is on the prolongation of your line to the left.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864.

Maj. THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Eighteenth Army Corps:

SIR: I have the honor to state the officer commanding the division sharpshooters reports that the enemy withdrew their sharpshooters from the pits in front of the battery opposite the Beasley house this afternoon about 4 o'clock, and have not since occupied them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. CARR,
Brigadier-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. 1ST BRIG., 1ST DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
August 18, 1864.

A telegram from headquarters Army of the Potomac has just been received, which states that Major-General Warren has reached the Weldon railroad and is making a reconnaissance in force on the right flank of the enemy, with instructions to carry their lines and the main ridge in rear of their front if a favorable opportunity presents itself. The utmost vigilance is enjoined on the part of the troops and any changes or movements on the part of the enemy will be reported at these headquarters immediately.

By command of Col. A. F. Stevens:

GEO. A. BRUCE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 18, 1864—4 p. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

The major-general commanding directs that you strengthen the cavalry placed under the orders of General Warren by one of the regiments on this side the Blackwater. The one that can be got to him most readily should be sent.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 18, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Since receiving your order requiring me to send another regiment to General Warren I have learned that he has only availed himself of a portion of one of the two already directed to report to him. The First District of Columbia has not moved, and only a portion of the Third New York has gone. I notified General Warren that Colonel Lewis had been directed to report to him with two regiments, and he replied that he would communicate his orders to Colonel Lewis as his command moved out past Colonel Lewis' headquarters, which are immediately upon the Jerusalem plank road. Your orders have been properly transmitted so far as my command is concerned, and the third regiment has been directed to report to General Warren.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 18, 1864.

Col. S. P. SPEAR,
Commanding Second Brigade, Cavalry Division:

I am instructed by the general commanding to inform you that the Third New York, First District of Columbia, and Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry were placed at the disposal of General Warren, who can make such disposition of them as he wishes. If the First District of Columbia is needed by you General Warren's order is all that is necessary.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. J. ASCH,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
August 19, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

The President directs me to express his gratification at your success in pushing across and seizing the Weldon road. He thinks that a heavy blow to the enemy if you are able to hold it, as he hopes you will.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, *August 19, 1864—10 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

One of General Augur's scouts insists that Longstreet's corps and Fitzhugh Lee's cavalry have passed through Culpeper on their way to join Early. The information derived from this man has heretofore proved very reliable. If this be true, the enemy is too strong for Sheridan.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 19, 1864—7.30 p. m.*
(Received 2.40 p. m. 20th.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Our troops are firmly fixed across the Weldon road. There has been little or no fighting to-day, either south of Petersburg or north of James River. Warren reports that the enemy's dead in considerable numbers were found in his front this morning unburied. General Birney telegraphs General Butler, as follows:

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864.

The enemy attacked my line in heavy force last night and were repulsed with great loss. In front of one colored regiment eighty-two dead bodies of the enemy are counted. The colored troops behaved handsomely and are in fine spirits. The assault was in column, one division strong, and would have carried works not so well defended. The enemy's loss was at least 1,000.

Respectfully,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

We have had a great deal of rain about Petersburg this week and a very grateful change in the temperature.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 19, 1864—8 p. m.*
(Received 2.50 p. m. 20th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK:

Fitz Lee's cavalry and Kershaw's division, of Longstreet's corps, have gone from here to the Valley. No other troops have gone, and with the present distribution of troops here the enemy is much more likely to withdraw from the Valley than to send more there. The enemy's loss here this week in killed, wounded, and captured cannot fall much short of 4,000, if it does not exceed this number. They are now so extended that they are forced to keep every man on the watch, and from accounts of prisoners are running their men to death shifting them from one place to another. Sheridan has a force about equal to the enemy, and if the latter advances will have him at an advantage.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 19, 1864—9 p. m.*
(Received 3 p. m. 20th.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

The enemy came out this evening on Warren's right, driving in the pickets connecting between him and the left of our old line on the Jerusalem plank road and forcing back the two right divisions of Warren's corps. A heavy fight took place, resulting in the re-establishing of our lines and the capture of a good many prisoners. The prisoners were from Heth's, Mahone's, and Hoke's divisions. We also lost considerably in prisoners.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—8 a. m.

General GRANT:

Ord's reserves, consisting of two small brigades, were put in Parke's line last night, permitting Willcox's division to go to Warren. Mott's division has just arrived and will release men of the Ninth Corps to go to Warren's support. Warren reports, at 7 a. m., that he has driven the enemy's cavalry down to Reams' Station; that the enemy are in force in his front, having been at work all night intrenching. Reports from pickets of the Ninth Corps would indicate a movement of the enemy to their right—our left.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 19, 1864—8.50 a. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

I think General Hancock, by detaining a large force north of the James, makes our force at Petersburg relatively as strong as it would be if he was with it. It also seems to be a sensitive point with the enemy. I am anxious to force the enemy to withdraw from the Valley the re-enforcements he has sent to Early, and I think the best way to do it is to threaten as long a line as possible. If, therefore, there is no necessity for it, I shall not withdraw Hancock for the present.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General GRANT:

Your telegram of 8.50 received. I will confer with General Warren and advise you whether, in his judgment and mine, more troops are required on the Weldon road than those sent by Parke. My impression now is that they are not, so long as the enemy is threatened on the north bank of the James.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—10.20 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Send the accompanying dispatch* of General Grant to General Warren, and say that General Parke in the course of the day will send 4,000 men in addition to the 2,000 taken by Willcox. Inquire whether, in Warren's judgment, these re-enforcements are sufficient for his purposes, that I may reply to General Grant. General Warren should at all hazards maintain his hold on the Weldon railroad, and, if practicable, to extend his line to connect with the Ninth Corps. At the same time if the enemy can be pushed back nearer the lead-works, so as to make the line shorter to the left of the Ninth Corps, it would be desirable to do so.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* See Grant to Meade, 8.50 a. m., second, *ante*.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—11 a. m.

General GRANT:

Parke will be able to send Warren all his white troops, amounting to 6,000. This will be ample for all Warren's purposes, unless the enemy re-enforce strongly from their troops now north of the James. I have directed Warren to intrench himself strongly and to connect, if possible, with the left of the Ninth Corps; also, if practicable, to push the enemy back to their works around Petersburg, they being now, as I understand it, over a mile or more outside of these works.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—12.15 p. m.

General GRANT:

I send dispatch just received from Warren.* I am going to see him. The telegraph now runs to his headquarters.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—8 p. m.

General GRANT:

I left Warren's at 4 p. m. All quiet. At 4.30 the enemy drove in the picket-line he had established connecting with our works on the Jerusalem plank road, and, turning his right flank, interposed their masses between Warren and Parke. Warren immediately attacked them, and after a severe fight drove them back and re-established his lines. I send you his dispatch,† just received. The roads are in a very bad condition, and if it continues to rain there will be trouble in supplying Warren.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 19, 1864—9.30 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Your dispatch of 8 p. m. just received. I am pleased to see the promptness with which General Warren attacked the enemy when he came out. I hope he will not hesitate in such cases to abandon his line and take every man to fight every battle, and trust to regaining them afterward or to getting better. The enemy must have left their line guarded by a single division.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See Warren to Humphreys, 11 a. m., p. 306.
† See Warren to Humphreys, 6.50 p. m., p. 307.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—9.45 p. m.

General GRANT:

I send dispatch* just received from Warren. I think he is not aware that three of his regiments that were on picket are now in connection with Parke's pickets on the old line. This I get from Parke, who said he could not find out whether these three regiments had any connection with the rest of the Fifth Corps. If Warren has included them in the missing it will reduce his losses in this respect. I have telegraphed him to inquire. I expect he will be attacked again in the morning, as the enemy are very tenacious of their hold on the Weldon road, and will not be likely to give it up without great effort.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 19, 1864—10.11 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

Can you not spare Mott's division from the line to re-enforce Warren? The enemy have evidently taken everything from their line and would think of no attack except to dislodge our troops from the railroad. I will bring Hancock back to-morrow night, and then the Tenth Corps will relieve the Eighteenth, giving us more troops foot-loose.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—11 p. m.

General GRANT:

It will not be possible to withdraw Mott from the lines, for it would leave the whole of the line recently held by the Fifth Corps to be held by the colored division of the Ninth Corps, less than 4,000 strong. Warren, I think, has men enough, provided the enemy do not re-enforce from the James. Warren, with his own corps and the two divisions of the Ninth Corps, ought to have, after his losses, nearly 20,000 men, and I cannot believe the enemy can have over 12,000. With this preponderance he ought not only maintain his lodgment on the railroad, but should be able to drive the enemy into his fortifications. I have suggested to him to try it to-morrow morning, as the way to stop any further flanking by the enemy. I have, however, left it to his discretion, dependent on the temper of his men, of which he is a better judge than I am. Instead of relieving the Eighteenth Corps, who are familiar with the line they now occupy, I would suggest the Tenth relieving Mott and the colored division of the Ninth that is holding the lines up to the plank road. Then Hancock could go to the Weldon road and the Ninth hold between the plank and Weldon road.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* See Warren to Humphreys, 8.15 p. m., p. 308.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 275. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, August 19, 1864.*

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13. First Lieut. C. C. Chaffee, Ordnance Department, is hereby relieved from the operation of Special Orders, No. 268, August 12, 1864, from this office, on account of ill health.

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36. By direction of the President, Bvt. Maj. Gen. John G. Barnard, U. S. Volunteers, and chief engineer of the armies operating in Virginia, is hereby assigned to duty according to his brevet rank.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The prisoners sent in this morning from the Fifth Corps are from Fry's and Davis' brigades, of Heth's division. They report that the whole of that division moved down the railroad yesterday and engaged the Fifth Corps. They all think that no other troops took their place in the trenches. There are prisoners from Colquitt's brigade, of Hoke's division, who say that that brigade is the only one of the division which moved down the railroad. There are also prisoners from Dearing's cavalry brigade. This brigade is composed of the Seventh Confederate Cavalry, the Fourth North Carolina, and the Sixty-second Georgia Regiments. They are in W. H. F. Lee's division. They have been doing picket duty from the right of their infantry line as far down as the Gurley house. Barringer's brigade were doing picket duty on their right, extending from the Gurley house down toward Lee's Mill. These two brigades, they think, are all the cavalry left in that vicinity. Prisoners all report that the enemy have no works between the lead-works and the position now occupied by the Fifth Corps. They heard of no troops coming from the north side of the James River up to the time they were captured. One deserter from the Sixth Virginia Infantry, Mahone's old brigade, reports that he went on picket night before last; that his brigade was then in the trenches, and that only two brigades of Mahone's division (Wright's and Perrin's) have left our front. He has not seen Harris' brigade lately, and thinks it possible that they may have gone away. Colquitt's brigade has been lying in reserve in the suburbs of Petersburg for some time past, and moved down the railroad about 10 o'clock yesterday morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERA: Five prisoners of war, taken by the Fifth Corps about 3 o'clock this afternoon, have just arrived here. They are from Colquitt's

and Clingman's brigades, of Hoke's division. Clingman's brigade was relieved by Ransom's brigade, of Johnson's division, this morning about 10 o'clock, and marched down the railroad. Prisoners state that the two mentioned are all the brigades of Hoke's division which have left their old position. They also state that Clingman's, Colquitt's, and Mahone's brigades made a charge on the left flank of the Fifth Corps this afternoon about 3 o'clock. Up to the time they were captured the enemy had only driven in or captured our skirmish line. They know of no troops having arrived from the north side of the Appomattox. One of the prisoners said he saw General D. H. Hill near the lead-works this morning; another prisoner thinks that he is on General Beauregard's staff.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point, Va.:

Heth's division and Colquitt's brigade are now in front of Fifth Corps on railroad below lead-works. Colquitt's is only brigade of Hoke's division which moved yesterday. Dearing's cavalry, composed of Seventh Confederate, Sixty-second Georgia, and Fourth North Carolina, together with Barringer's cavalry brigade, are also in front of Fifth Corps. Deserter from Sixth Virginia, who went on picket night of 17th, states that Mahone's brigade was then in our front, and that Wright's and Perrin's are the only brigades of Mahone's division away from here.

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Twenty-two prisoners of war, in which two officers are included, have just arrived from the Fifth Corps. They are from Colquitt's, Clingman's, and Mahone's brigades, and report nothing in addition to last report.

Very respectfully,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 19, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Major FISHER:

A few stragglers passing to our left on line of Weldon railroad. All quiet. Camps unchanged.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

AUGUST 19, 1864—9.55 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

The rebel signal stations report one brigade of our infantry and eighty-six wagons moving past Battery 5, toward our front. Colonel B[rent] orders the rebel stations to keep a strict watch upon our movements this a. m.

FULLER.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 19, 1864—9.05 a. m.

Major FISHER, *Chief Signal Officer:*

The long train of box-cars reported to right of factory was moved at 8 this a. m. toward the enemy's depot on Petersburg and Richmond Railroad. All quiet.

A. C. JORDAN.

This is the only report left in telegraph office this morning.

OPERATOR.

GIBBON'S HOUSE STATION,
August 19, 1864—6 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

The camp of infantry reported as in the city yesterday has disappeared. Too much wind this a. m. to read enemy's signals. No observation of account could be made after 10.30 a. m. on account of fog.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: My lookout at the plank road station reports that at 5 p. m. a battalion of infantry came into view to the left of the lead-works and halted, the rear being still covered. Four mounted men, apparently officers, were at the head and moved on to our left. Owing to the rain further observations could not be made. The lookout was of the opinion that it was the head of a column of troops.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The plank road lookout reports that a few stragglers are passing southward on the Weldon railroad. This might indicate some movement of troops before daylight. All quiet. Camps unchanged.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

CITY POINT, *August 19, 1864—10.15 a. m.*

General HANCOCK:

The enemy claim to have captured 600 prisoners from you on Tuesday and numbers at other times, making in all near 1,000. They also claim to have captured many horses. How far are these statements correct?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *August 19, 1864—10.30 a. m.*
(Received 10.40 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

The enemy are moving troops to Petersburg. How many have gone I do not know, but probably a division. If you can find an opportunity to attack any weak point do not hesitate to do so. I think it will be perfectly safe for you to have any portion of your lines guarded merely with pickets, whilst all the balance of the force is being used as an assaulting column.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Gregg reports that he does not know of any horses being captured in his late fight. He had 300 killed and wounded and a few mired in a swamp. He has 33 men missing, none of whom he believes to be wounded.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—11.40 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have sent for the list of missing to ascertain the number supposed to have been taken prisoners. I have never heard of any horses being taken, nor have I heard of any prisoners being taken, except that I supposed stragglers might have been. There may have been some loss, but it was considered a matter of so small moment that it never was presented to me in the light of captures by the enemy. When Generals Miles and Gregg were pressed back on the Charles City road some men were missing, but it was supposed that they had been broken off in the jungle and had straggled to the rear. General Miles that evening reported 150 as unaccounted for, the most of whom he supposed he could collect.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—12.10 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have not discovered anything going out of the enemy's line in my front, yet I am having careful examination made with a view to assault. If, however, the lines appear to be well manned I cannot promise success. A movement down the Charles City road with 6,000 or 8,000 infantry and the cavalry might be more successful than an assault on the lines here; but if you consider an assault preferable I will make it at the best point I can determine.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 19, 1864.*

Major-General HANCOCK:

I did not intend to order how you should attack or whether you should attack at all. Assault, if you think it can be done successfully, and in the manner you deem best. All I have to say is that I feel no doubt but you can use all your force upon any point you deem best.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *August 19, 1864—12.40 p. m.*
(Received 1 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

If you can possibly spare a brigade of cavalry to go to our left to support the Fifth Corps, send it. There will be no necessity of waiting for night to start it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—2.40 p. m.

General GRANT:

I have ordered one brigade of cavalry to report to General Meade. The order went out a little before 2 p. m.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—4.25 p. m.

General GRANT:

I have just returned from a careful examination of my line. My commanders have also made careful reconnaissances. But one point is seen where an assault is considered practicable, this being just below the dam at Fussell's Mill. The enemy's line is about 200 paces from our skirmish line. As to whether it can be held if taken, I cannot say. I think I will try it at daylight in the morning. This place is filled with men as close as though on parade. It is about the only place where the pickets do not fire on each other.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—7 p. m.

General GRANT:

Brigadier-General Girardey's death is noticed in the papers of the 19th, and the following appears in the editorial:

The battles of Monday and Tuesday.—We have authentic information that in the series of severe engagements fought on this side of the river during Monday and Tuesday, culminating in the battle below White's Tavern on Tuesday evening, our entire loss—killed, wounded, and missing—does not exceed 1,000. We believe that our killed will scarcely number 100. The enemy's killed alone will exceed our losses from all causes—the killed, wounded, and prisoners. Grant's loss is not less than 7,000 or 8,000.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Same to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—7.10 p. m. (Received 7.22 p. m.)

General GRANT:

Desiring to carry out your wishes here, I have had, since my last telegraph, careful examinations of the enemy's line by my chief of staff and General Miles, to whom I propose to give the attacking column. They are of the opinion I expressed to you, that by putting in a strong force at a certain point on my line we can break through the enemy's line, probably capturing 300 or 400 prisoners and possibly two guns, but that it is a question as to whether we could hold it, as the point to be attacked presents no peculiar feature and is not as high as the surrounding ground. It is an important question how many men the enemy have opposite me now. I can only say their pits are well filled. I would like to know the latest information you have on this point, and I would like your views on the matter of the assault, as you know what is occurring elsewhere as well as here. A rebel paper of 19th speaks of the engagements here, some admitting 1,000 casualties, claiming that we had 1,000 killed. They do not claim many prisoners.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 19, 1864—8 p. m.*

General HANCOCK:

I have no information of the withdrawal of any troops from the north side of the river further than I telegraphed you to-day, and those proved to be cavalry and in less numbers probably than a division. I do not think it advisable to assault unless you feel satisfied that you will gain a decided advantage. I want principally the enemy so occupied that he cannot send off any of his forces, and attacks made only when he leaves a weak place or where he can be surprised. From your description I hardly think it advisable to let General Miles attack in the morning, but you are a better judge of this matter than I am. Exercise your own judgment.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864.

General GRANT:

Your dispatch is received. I had almost completed my preparations for attack and hoped to be successful, but with the proviso that a division of infantry had been withdrawn by the enemy. With their force not diminished I should anticipate a severe fight after carrying the line, without any advantage on my side, as my force would be considerably disorganized by the assault. I suppose I could fight 14,000 men, of which 3,000 are on picket, not including Gregg's remaining brigade of cavalry. After reading your dispatch I have concluded not to assault in the morning, but to perfect my arrangements and take advantage of any weakening of the enemy hereafter. The rain to-night softens the ground so where I wish to place artillery in close proximity to the enemy, making it very difficult to move 12-pounders, and I am, therefore, willing to postpone for this additional reason. These pieces have to be put in position by hand. Gregg has 1,600 cavalry here.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 19, 1864—9.30 p. m.*
(Received 10.40 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

Hoke's, Heth's, and Mahone's divisions came out and attacked Warren this evening. A heavy fight ensued, with considerable loss in prisoners captured on each side. As we understand, Johnson's division is also at Petersburg. This leaves Wilcox, Pickett, and Field, with the possibility of part of Pickett's division gone to the Valley, to guard from Petersburg to the James and to confront you on the north side. There must be a weak point somewhere.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

(Copy to General Butler.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—10.40 p. m. (Received 11.50 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your dispatch is received. According to my information, which is necessarily imperfect, Field and Wilcox are here, and Wright's brigade, of Wilcox's division. These troops must number nearly as many men as I have, now that Mott is absent. From what General Birney informed me last night, I imagined that Pickett had left General Butler's front. I shall try and avoid being deceived here by the enemy weakening materially their force, and am willing to try whether the weak point is here or not.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—11 p. m.

General GRANT:

That you may know exactly how matters are here, I will say that I consider a much larger force necessary here for the offensive than for the defensive; and though I should have to contract my lines, I can still spare a division of Tenth Corps and maintain a respectable show here. This is sent you on the supposition that you really feel desirous of calling for some of my force, as I have not been able to force the enemy here yet.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—12 m.

General GRANT:

Richmond Examiner of to-day has following telegram:

PETERSBURG, *August 18, 1864.*

A force of the Fifth Corps of the enemy, assisted by cavalry, broke through our cavalry lines and succeeded in reaching the Weldon railroad just above Six-Mile Station, tearing up a portion of the road, some say as much as two miles. H. H. Walker's and Davis' (Mississippi) brigades coming on the raiders, a sharp fight ensued, the result of which is not fully ascertained. One hundred and fifty-eight prisoners, including eight officers captured in the fight, have arrived here. The enemy is in retreat by the latest advices. The prisoners say the movement had a twofold object, to draw troops from our front, in order if possible to charge on works, and, secondly, to break the road. General Frank Gardner has been assigned to the Defenses of Mobile. Two thousand men are reported as having advanced from Pensacola toward Mobile.

I will send you the paper by the mail-boat in the morning.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—8.45 a. m. (Received 9.45 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

General Warren had a sharp engagement with the enemy yesterday afternoon, but held his position, which is on the Weldon railroad, about a mile this side of the Blick house. The enemy were re-enforcing in front of Warren all yesterday afternoon and last night. General Mott's division relieved a portion of the Ninth Corps this morning, and the troops so relieved have gone to Warren. Nothing decisive has as yet resulted from the movement of the Fifth Corps. At about 2 a. m. last night the enemy opened from several of his batteries in front of the Ninth and Eighteenth Corps. All is quiet now.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL CIRCULAR.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General Grant desires an assault made on some part of the line to-day. Commanding officers will therefore satisfy themselves how many troops they can spare for such a purpose, whether on their

own line or not. It is the instruction of the major-general commanding to leave the line pretty much with the pickets to hold, and to use nearly all his force for assault, if made. Commanders will have their lines carefully examined and carefully watched for any practicable point that may exist or any sign of weakness that may be shown. Two days' rations will be issued at once.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 19, 1864.

Lieut. Col. F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

COLONEL: In reply to your telegram I have the honor to report that 151 are missing in this command, all from the Second Brigade, of which 102 are supposed to be taken prisoners.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 19, 1864—8.40 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report that prisoners taken by my pickets say that they broke through General Warren's right, through the Thirteenth [Nineteenth?] Indiana. The Seventh Wisconsin connects with my left, but report no connection on their left. Prisoners report three brigades as the attacking force, commanded by Archer, Clingman, and Mahone.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864.

Col. JOHN PULFORD,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that the regiments belonging to General Bragg's brigade be ordered by you to join your line the first thing in the morning, following the telegraph line. You will give the necessary attention to this matter, so as to have General Warren's request (as above) carried out. General Warren telegraphs at the same time that he has made his arrangements to fight at daybreak if the enemy chooses; if not, he will re-establish the line at that time. If the fight should take place and the line not be re-established, you will refuse your left somewhat, throwing out vedettes sufficient to keep up a connection. This matter must be attended to promptly.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—5 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I send twenty-one prisoners taken yesterday. One of them, N. B. Smith, Twelfth Tennessee, says he is a deserter, and is disposed to be communicative.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864. (Received 7 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Colonel Spear has driven the enemy's cavalry pickets as far down the railroad to within a mile of Reams' Station, and pickets all the roads between that point and this coming in from the west. I have directed him to withdraw the District of Columbia cavalry. General Ayres reports as follows: "The enemy are in force on our front. They were at work most of the night strengthening their position. Picket-firing is going on to some extent." I have not received any report this morning from General Crawford. I have sent out for him to make connection with his lines with the Ninth Corps. General Willcox has arrived and is now near the Gurley house.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

General Crawford reports that there is no apparent change in the position or force of the enemy in his front, except that they have retired their skirmish line about 300 yards opposite the front of his left brigade. The skirmish line of that brigade has been advanced, accordingly, preserving the connection with the skirmishers of the Second Division.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The accompanying dispatch* from Lieutenant-General Grant to the major-general commanding is sent for your information and guidance. In addition to the 2,000 men under Willcox, 4,000 men from General Parke will reach you during the day. The major-general commanding desires to know whether, in your judgment, these re-enforcements are sufficient for your purposes. You should at all hazards maintain your hold on the Weldon railroad, and, if practicable, extend your line to connect with

* See Grant to Meade, 8.50 a. m., p. 293.

the Ninth Corps. If the enemy can be pushed back nearer to the lead-works so as to shorten the line connecting with the left of the Ninth Corps it is desirable that it should be done.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I think with the force you are sending me it will be safe to trust me to hold on to the railroad. I have been all the morning endeavoring to get up a proper connection with the Ninth Corps as close to Petersburg as possible, and have met no obstacle except the denseness of the woods, which seems to be a great difficulty to the officers in charge of the line. We are, however, progressing. The enemy left a good many dead on the ground we fought on yesterday. There are some indications that his main force has been withdrawn to Petersburg defenses, leaving a thin line in his intrenchments here. I am making every exertion to ascertain this. The destruction of the railroad depends so much upon the ability to burn the ties that it looks unpromising now.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—12.10 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Your telegram of 11 a. m. just received. General Humphreys is absent. As it is now determined to maintain our lodgment on the railroad, its destruction becomes a matter of secondary importance. There is some delay in relieving Parke's troops, owing to the covered ways being filled with water. He is ordered to send them to you by brigades as fast as relieved. Is there not a shorter road for the infantry to move than by the Williams house? I am now on my way to visit you.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

A dispatch from Lieutenant-General Grant to the major-general commanding, dated 3 p. m., states a brigade of cavalry has been ordered to report to you and that 200 railroad men have been sent to you to destroy the railroad.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

The enemy have just broken through the picket of General Bragg, between his brigade and the Ninth Corps. My troops are in position and I will give him a good turn.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch from the plank road signal station is respectfully forwarded:

2.30 P. M.

The rear of a column of infantry (about two brigades) moved to our left between 1.45 and 2.15 p. m. on line of Weldon railroad. Head of column could not be seen on account of rain. Many stragglers followed. Battery in our front opened on a brigade of infantry passing by our station to the left. Battery near station is replying.

FULTON.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

[Indorsement.]

Received 4 p. m.
Respectfully forwarded for information of Major-General Warren.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—6.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that upon the arrival of the brigade of cavalry from Gregg's division and of the railroad men you send them with a brigade of infantry and some artillery to clear the enemy from Reams' Station and destroy the railroad as far south from your position as practicable. The commanding general directed General Parke to collect some reserve troops and drive back the enemy that had broken through the picket-line near his left, and re-establish the line.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—6.50 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy broke through the line I had just established between my position and that on the plank road, and moving rapidly on my right

flank, compelled the whole of Crawford's and Ayres' divisions to fall back. A heavy fight took place, and the whole line has been regained, taking many prisoners. They are from Mahone's, Heth's, and Hoke's divisions. Our loss is heavy, being considerable in prisoners. I will report more definitely when I get returns.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—7.40 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general desires to know whether you have re-established the picket-line where it was broken on your right. Upon his return he met your supply train on the Williams house road going out.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864. (Received 8.15 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have made arrangements to connect my picket-line to-night along the road by Aiken's. Potter's division is at Aiken's. We will straighten up all we can to-night and be ready for fight if necessary in the morning.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your dispatch announcing the falling back of Crawford and Ayres, and the subsequent driving back of the enemy and re-establishment of the line is received. The commanding general thinks you should make the connection with the intrenchments at the plank road to-night with the re-enforcements sent you to-day, and that they should intrench there.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—8.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I find my losses in prisoners have been very considerable. Nearly all of the Pennsylvania Reserves are missing and a great many in the other brigades of General Crawford. Cutler's division will not be much reduced when we get it together. Ayres has lost very heavily and

General Hayes is missing. We have possession of all ground fought over, numerous prisoners, and two stand of colors. I do not think it possible to establish the line across to-night as suggested in your dispatch. I have Willcox and White in good position to maintain my position. They have both been engaged. Potter's men did not get further than the Aiken house and I have stationed them there for to-night. We are well disposed as we can be against the enemy if he attack in the morning. The enemy everywhere fell back from our attack to-night in confusion, and if the troops had only held a little against the flank attack they could have stood it. If I could reoccupy the line of the picket which was broken to-day I would not think it advisable. We will try it in the morning if not attacked, and if we are we are just right now.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I am delighted to hear the good news you send, and most heartily congratulate you [and] your brave officers and men on your success. It will serve greatly to inspirit the whole army, and proves that we only want a fair chance to show our capacity to defeat the enemy. I hope he will try it again. In the meantime I would try and get the Ninth Corps on the left to prepare a line and slash it well, so as to secure the connection with the plank road. Parke has a few available troops and I will direct him to occupy as much of the line with them as he can.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—9.45 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The Seventh Wisconsin Regiment and, I believe, an Indiana regiment were cut off during the break this afternoon and are now with the left of General Mott's line. I have directed General Mott to use his utmost to re-establish the connection with your right.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I send you a dispatch* just received from the lieutenant-general commanding. It will not be possible to withdraw Mott, as he suggests, as it would leave the whole of the line recently held by your corps to be held by the colored troops, less than 4,000 strong. A deserter has come in to Parke who belongs to a brigade of Heth's yet in our front. He says only two of Heth's brigades went up to the railroad. On this

*See Grant to Meade, 10.11 p. m., p. 295.

I do not rely, but the fact of his brigade being in our front shows that all of Heth's is not in your front. Some prisoners taken this p. m. by Parke's people say the attack on your right flank was made by three brigades, one of Mahone's and two of Hoke's division. I think you have in your front nearly all of Heth's, three brigades of Mahone's and two of Hoke's, probably a division and a half, say 10,000 men. Could you not attack them to-morrow with all your force before they are re-enforced from the north of the James? I think if your men are in good spirits it will be your best chance, but I only make the suggestion.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864. (Received 12.15 a. m. 20th.)

Major-General MEADE:

We are prepared with the supports you have given us of the Ninth Corps to try to hold our own. We have lost in numbers but not in morale. The same number of our troops could not be better situated to show their strength than we are now, and it would be more satisfactory to me to have Mott's division retained with Parke than to have it here. If we are not strong enough to beat the enemy we cannot be taken. I have given orders to advance at daylight in every direction and will govern my movement according to the developments under your sanction where it is practicable.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-Genera

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
August 19, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

General Potter is now moving to join you with a portion of the Second Division. The other brigade will follow as soon as relieved. He will have, all told, about 2,400 infantry. He has been instructed to report to you. General Willcox left this a. m. to report to you. I presume he has joined you ere this. General White will follow soon.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—10.30 p. m.

General PARKE:

I wish you would give directions to those regiments of General Bragg's brigade to join us the first thing in the morning, following the telegraph line. I have made my arrangements to fight at daybreak if the enemy chooses; and if not, we will re-establish the line and put your corps on it. Your corps fought bravely to-day.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 19, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that I am directed by Major-General Parke, commanding the Ninth Corps, to move my command to your position and report to you for further instructions. My command is now being relieved by other troops, and will be ready to move within two or three hours. I therefore respectfully request that the bearer, Captain Howe, of my staff, be informed as to the proximate position I am to occupy, in order that the command may be guided there by him.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JULIUS WHITE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that the enemy are reported moving down on General Ayres' and Colonel Lyle's front in heavy force. He directs you to at once put your command in readiness to move to the front and keep so until dark.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—9 a. m.

Brigadier-General AYRES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires you to have the timber in front of your line slashed as much as possible, so as to make it as strong as you can, and inform him frequently of the practicability of forcing the enemy's line back. General Willcox's division, 2,000 strong, has arrived to our support. As soon as practicable please send in an approximate list of your casualties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—If you need more axes for slashing purposes let me know.
(Same to General Crawford.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General AYRES:

The fact of the enemy leaving his dead on the ground may indicate that he has withdrawn to Petersburg and may have only a thin line in

his breast-works. I wish you would use every exertion to make out the real state of the case. I will send Hayes' dispatch* to Crawford with the same request I make of you.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—9.25 a. m.

Brigadier-General AYRES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding thinks you had better try and push the enemy's pickets, so as to see as far ahead as you can, and let him know as soon as practicable what is the result.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 19, 1864.

The brigadier-general commanding division directs that the above order be executed at once, and the result reported.

By command of Brigadier-General Ayres:

GEO. L. CHOISY,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

Colonel Dushane will keep up the connection with the pickets on his right.

By command of Brigadier-General Ayres:

GEO. L. CHOISY,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 19, 1864—1.10 p. m.

Lieut. Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report sharp picket-firing on Colonel Lyle's front for a short time. It has ceased. From all information that can be gained it is believed that the enemy's line of battle is along the woods beyond the corn-field. It is supposed the picket-fire is suspended to allow us to bury theirs and our dead. I ordered that done and a list of the numbers sent in. My operations of yesterday terminated satisfactorily in the repulse of the enemy's attempt to drive us from this position. I state this, as it may be thought by some because my line temporarily broke that I was repulsed. When the attack was made I was on the defensive. It was the enemy's attack. My picket-line has been pushed to the front of the woods. That is a better position for it than where it was yesterday; it then being in a corn-field had a very limited field of vision. When it fell back (the Twelfth U. S. Infantry composed it) it brought off all its wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

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*See Hayes to Choisy, 9 a. m., p. 313.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE,
August 19, 1864—9 a. m.

Lieutenant CHOISY,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Div., Fifth Army Corps:

SIR: Our picket-line on the left of railroad has advanced to front of woods taking fifty of enemy's dead. His line at this point is probably beyond corn-field. Our pickets occupy his works on front of woods. On right of railroad Colonel Lyle's pickets have not advanced to front of woods. Our wounded report enemy moving to our left. We are bringing off our killed and wounded.

J. HAYES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE,
August 19, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Lieutenant CHOISY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

The officer of picket in front of my line reports the enemy sending heavy columns to our left across the railroad. Colonel Lyle has moved to right. I have placed Twelfth U. S. Infantry in front line on right of railroad. I will endeavor to ascertain how heavy the columns are.

Yours, &c.,

JOSEPH HAYES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE,
August 19, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant CHOISY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy are showing a heavy force in our front in corn-field. Colonel Lyle had a report twenty minutes since that the enemy were moving down on us in line of battle.

JOSEPH HAYES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—9.15 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

I send you a dispatch just received from Ayres.* It seems to indicate that the enemy has withdrawn. I wish every practicable effort made to ascertain. Have Lyle advance as Hayes has done.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 19, 1864.

Lieut. Col. FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:

COLONEL: The Third Brigade (Colonel Hartshorne) on the right of the division remains unchanged, the line ranging from 150 to 200 yards

* See Hayes to Choisy, 9. a. m., third, *ante.*

from the enemy's main line of works, who appear in the same force as yesterday. The Second Brigade (Colonel Wheelock) remains the same as last evening, both line of battle and skirmish line. The skirmish line is about 150 yards in front of the battle line, and about the same distance from the enemy's line of works. No apparent change in the force or line of the enemy. The First Brigade (Colonel Lyle) also remains unchanged, connecting on the left with the Second Division. The skirmish line of the enemy has retired 300 yards to the center of the corn-field and Colonel Lyle has advanced his skirmishers to near the edge of woods. Wounded men report that in retiring the enemy gained ground to their right.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 19, 1864.

Lieut. Col. FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:

COLONEL: There is no apparent change in the position or force of the enemy in my front, except that they have retired their skirmish line about 300 yards opposite the front of my left brigade. The skirmish line of that brigade has been advanced accordingly, preserving the connection with the skirmishers of the Second Division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 19, 1864.

Lieut. Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: The connection with the Ninth Corps pickets is formed. They connect about one-fourth of a mile from the Aiken house, bearing 10 degrees north of east. I shall make the line as straight as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—10.15 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

From what I can learn by Major Roebling, you have not got the connection with the Ninth Corps at all where I wanted it. I wish it to begin on the extreme right of the reserves, then in a northeast direction to the angle in the picket-line where I went with you, if it can be done. If not, then as nearly there as you can. This will enable the line to watch the enemy toward Petersburg; will not take half the men you now

have on, and will relieve much of the Ninth Corps pickets. I sent Captain Cope to aid in this, but he has not returned yet. You will have to stir this matter up.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

P. S.—General Bragg's line will have to be taken away from where it now is and put where I want it, and he must superintend it personally and not employ a staff officer.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 19, 1864.

[Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:]

GENERAL: I have retaken the intrenchments but there is no connection with my right. Hartranft's brigade, of Willcox's division, has only advanced as far as the road to my rear which they picket. My force is not strong enough to stretch out. I beg you will order that the connection be made to-night. I have a rebel color. The enemy burst in Bragg's brigade on my right and came down the line. Our artillery threw shells into our own intrenchments on my left, and greatly embarrassed the men. I have lost Hartshorne and Carle and was once surrounded myself.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Captain Bache has just reported with General Mott's division. General Willcox's division got off between 4 and 5 o'clock. He had, by the last return, 2,115 equipped men.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864. (Received 9.20 a. m.)

General PARKE:

How many men will you be able to relieve with Mott's division and send to Warren?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
August 19, 1864—9.25 a. m.

General MEADE:

I will be able to relieve Potter's and White's divisions—about 4,000 men. White's can be relieved at once and sent to Warren. There may

be some difficulty in relieving Potter's owing to the water holes in the covered ways compelling the troops to expose themselves; still we will attempt it. Officers are now conducting Mott's men to their positions. General Mott will relieve a brigade of Ferrero to-night. General Willcox got off about 5 a. m.; as yet no report from him.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Will you please let me know when General Barnard arrives. I will inform you the moment that Potter's and White's divisions are relieved and ready to march. Shall I order them to move to Warren as soon as relieved without further orders?

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—10.40 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Have the last of the troops relieved by Mott's division begun to move to Warren yet? Please report the disposition of the troops holding the intrenchments in your front as soon as it is completed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Yours of 10.40 received. Mott's troops are now relieving Potter and White. As soon as relieved I will report.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—10.50 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Your dispatch of 10.30 a. m. is received. Potter and White should move to Warren as soon as relieved, without waiting the one for the other or for further orders. I will let you know when General Barnard arrives, and if you cannot leave your headquarters he can go to you. Are you at Burnside's old headquarters?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MOTT'S LEFT BRIGADE,
Chieves' House, August 19, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Colonel Pulford, commanding Mott's left brigade, reports that the break was made through General Warren's picket-line, three regiments to the left of our connection. The colonel thinks that the enemy then turned to their right and were engaged by General Warren's troops. Colonel Pulford's men have 25 enlisted men and 2 officers prisoners, who state that they became detached from the command and lost. Some of them were stretcher-bearers, and say they belong to Hoke's brigade, Mahone's division. Colonel Pulford had strengthened his line, and preserves his connection with Warren's regiment on our left. Colonel Pulford has sent out to ascertain, if possible, from those regiments of the Fifth Corps if their connection with the main body is perfected. General Mott and I will remain here until we hear from this connection.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Has the picket-line been re-established between your left and Warren's right? Do you know anything of the force of the enemy that broke it—that is, what became of it?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

General Warren reports that the enemy, after breaking through the picket-line on his right, compelled Crawford and Ayres to fall back. A heavy fight ensued, and the ground was regained and the line re-established. Many prisoners were taken from Heth's, Mahone's, and Hoke's divisions. General Warren is directed to establish his line to connect with yours to-night. The commanding general wishes you to aid in this with such available force as you have.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—9.15 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have just returned from the Chieves house and found your two dispatches of 7.45 and 8 p. m. My dispatch from the Chieves house gives all the information I could acquire.* Your dispatch, 8 p. m., I

* See 7.30 p. m., third, *ante*.

have forwarded to General Mott and requested that he do all in his power to re-establish the connection with General Warren. I do not consider that the negro troops are fit for such a service, under the circumstances, but should the commanding general desire it I will direct that a portion of these be employed in this service.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—9.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

A deserter has just come in from the line of intrenchments; says he left the enemy's picket-line; belongs to the Forty-eighth North Carolina, Cooke's brigade, Heth's division. Says two brigades of Heth's division have gone down to the Weldon railroad—Walker's and Davis'.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—9.50 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

A dispatch from General Warren, just received, shows that his troops do not occupy the same line as before the fight. He says he will connect his picket-line to-night along the road by Aiken's and straighten up all he can, and if not attacked to-morrow morning will endeavor to re-establish the line of to-day. I sent him your dispatch about his three regiments. Connect your picket-line with his to-night. His troops do not extend to his right farther than the Aiken house unless I misapprehend his dispatch. He does not consider it practicable or desirable to connect his troops with yours to-night and intrench them there.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—10.40 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Have the last of the troops relieved by Mott's division begun to move to Warren yet? Please report the disposition of the troops holding the intrenchments in your front as soon as it is completed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—10.50 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

A dispatch from Lieutenant-General Grant suggests to the major-general commanding sending Mott's division to General Warren.

While the commanding general does not think all of Mott's division could be spared, yet supposes you may be able to detach some part of it to General Warren. He desires to know about this and what part of it can, in your judgment, be spared.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—11.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The dispatch of 10.50 just received. General Mott's entire division is in position on the line. One brigade of his might be spared by returning the brigade of colored troops to their old position on the line.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—12.15 p. m.

General WHITE,
Commanding Division, Ninth Corps, or
COMMANDING OFFICER TROOPS RELIEVING GENERAL WHITE:

SIR: I have just received the inclosed dispatch from General Warren. The Strong house is not far distant from the Jones house, a little to the south of west. You will perceive that this materially shortens your original line. General Warren has directed his picket-line to move forward. You should direct your left to move forward in connection with General Warren's, preserving the alignment and your connection to the right. Please be on the lookout for any movement of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—11 a. m.

General PARKE:

GENERAL: I have thrown an infantry picket across from my right, striking yours at the Strong house. I have taken off the cavalry that connected with yours, and all that part of your line south of the Strong house can be withdrawn. My picket-line is directed to move forward, and I hope to get it to the front so as to connect with your most western point.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN.
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHITE,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Major-General Warren directs me to say that you will bring your command to this point by the most direct route, and camp for the present near General Willcox, whose location will be pointed out to you on your arrival.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRED. T. LOCKE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Major-General Warren directs me to inform you that the enemy are reported moving down in force on General Ayres' front, also in front of Colonel Lyle. He desires you to have your command at once put in readiness to move to the front, and keep it so until dark.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRED. T. LOCKE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864. (Received 10 p. m.)

General PARKE:

The corps did finely to-day. General Warren compliments us highly. Hartranft and White stood the brunt of Mahone's division and captured some prisoners. Humphrey recaptured some works temporarily lost and captured 6 officers and 48 men. Potter got up just in time to save the road of communication.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FOURTH DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., August 19, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Captain HICKS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Fourth Division, Ninth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report: There was very heavy cannonading along our lines from 11.30 to near morning. Capt. George D. Moore, Twenty-third U. S. Colored Troops, was shot dead by a sharpshooter, the ball passing through the lungs. There were two men wounded in the Twenty-third, one in the Nineteenth, and one in the Twenty-eighth.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. G. THOMAS,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 19, 1864.

Colonel MORGAN,
Chief of Staff, Second Army Corps:

COLONEL: All quiet this morning. The enemy still holds the intersection of the New Market and Charles City roads. My pickets connect from Deep Run to Malvern Hill, running down the Charles City road to the Second Creek, thence by a road west and near the road to Willis' Church, and down the Quaker road to the Hill. In the affair of yesterday evening the dismounted cavalry held successfully the works at the intersection of the New Market and Charles City roads against the attack in front, and quit them only when the enemy had passed by the right and left to their rear. Last night the enemy fell back in rear of this line of works.

Very respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 19, 1864—8 a. m.

Colonel MORGAN,
Chief of Staff, Second Army Corps:

COLONEL: The intersection of the New Market and Charles City roads is held by my pickets.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864.

[Brigadier-General GREGG:]

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you send a brigade of cavalry as soon as practicable to report to Major-General Meade. With your remaining force you must arrange to give early information of any movement of the enemy on our right. Please send me word how many men you have left for duty. If necessary a brigade of infantry can hold the cross-roads where you were attacked last night.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 19, 1864—3 p. m.

General GREGG:

It is important that the brigade of cavalry should proceed without delay to the left for service with General Warren about the Weldon railroad. Lieutenant-General Grant said it was not necessary to wait for orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 19, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel COMSTOCK,
City Point:

Bridge will be ready at 8 p. m. There are two approaches on the north side of river—one very steep, directly up the hill, the other round the base of the bluff; the last fit for artillery and wagons, the first entirely practicable for infantry. I would suggest that General Hancock send a staff officer to direct the wagons and artillery by the latter road, as if the former gets choked it will entirely block the column by that route.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 19, 1864.

General U. S. GRANT:

The following rebel signal messages were intercepted by the signal officer at the Mills house, on south bank of the Appomattox, two miles above Spring Hill:

ARCHER'S HOUSE STATION, *August 19, 1864.*

O. O. U. C.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Petersburg:

Colonel Simmons, commanding General Thomas' brigade, reports that his sharpshooters stationed near pontoon bridge say that stragglers were crossing toward Prince George from daylight and are still passing, and about 7 a. m. a brigade of infantry went the same way.

K.

ARCHER'S HOUSE STATION, *August 19, 1864—10 a. m.*

PETERSBURG STATION:

What is the news from the fight to-day? Is the Weldon railroad cut?

K.

Answer from Petersburg:

Have no news. The road is cut.

O. A. U.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 19, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

Have you positive evidence of the presence of Pickett's division anywhere on your front? I ask because General Halleck telegraphs that evidence which has heretofore proven reliable reports the whole of Longstreet's corps moving from Culpeper into the Valley. I know Field's division is here.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 19, 1864—8.30 p. m.
(Received 9.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding, &c.:

I have no positive evidence of Pickett's division lately. That a portion of it withdrew on Monday and Tuesday I have no doubt, because some dismounted cavalry was among a portion of the picket-line in our front; but yesterday afternoon troops came back into the rebel lines who had been there before, because one of the captains in talking with an officer of the picket-line stated to me a circumstance which happened to his company two weeks ago. I believe that but a brigade or two of Pickett's division is before us. I am surprised at your information that Field's division is not here. Most of the prisoners captured by the Tenth Corps were from brigades of that division. The Richmond Sentinel, which I sent you yesterday, speaks of Benning's brigade and another which I do not recollect, both of which are in Field's division, having made a charge on our lines on Wednesday. You will see by the intercepted signal message of the rebels that Lane's brigade is near the Appomattox.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 19, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: From all I can hear the colored troops belonging to the Ninth Army Corps have been very much demoralized by loss of officers and by their repulse of the 30th. I would respectfully suggest that the arrangement which was spoken of earlier in the season may be carried out and they be assigned to me to take the place of the 100-days' men who are going home. Perhaps, by adding them to the Eighteenth Corps, we can get in condition by and by to start that corps out in an efficient manner upon the expedition suggested. For long marches in the enemy's country I much prefer colored troops; there are with them no stragglers. Allow me to suggest whether the Ninth Corps, under the circumstances, might not be added to the Fifth and Tenth, as it has substantially lost its corps organization, and we might dispose of a troublesome question now pending.

I have the honor to be, very truly yours,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 19, 1864—10 p. m.

General BUTLER:

Warren, in occupying yesterday the Weldon railroad, was attacked by the enemy. Some confusion existed at first by the partial giving way of the Maryland Brigade, of Ayres' division, that were out-flanked. This was corrected and the enemy handsomely repulsed, Warren establishing himself in the railroad within about a mile of the

enemy's fortifications. To-day he was re-enforced by a portion of the Ninth Corps relieved by Mott's division, but about 4 p. m. the enemy, having moved between Warren's position and the plank road, attacked him sharply in front and flank. Warren was obliged at first to withdraw his line to cover his flank, but as soon as he had executed this maneuver he attacked the enemy, driving him in disorder back, and re-establishing his former line. The losses are reported heavy on both sides. General Hayes, commanding Regular Brigade, is missing.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

(Same to General Hancock.)

DUTCH GAP, *August 19, 1864—8 a. m.*

General BUTLER:

Shelling last night by a light gun battery to the northwest. No damage done.

LUDLOW,
Major.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
CHIEF ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
August 19, 1864—10 a. m.

Captain LUBEY,
Commanding Pontoon Bridge, Deep Bottom:

Commence immediately to build the approaches for a second pontoon bridge just above the one below Four-Mile Creek, taking the pontoon bridge brought up by Captain Henderson. As soon as the approaches are all ready send me word. You will then be instructed to build the bridge, so that it will be ready for use by 7 o'clock this evening. It may be necessary for the roadways on the other side to be repaired, so that the passage over the two bridges will not interfere with each other. In this case, and in any other, if you wish a detail of infantry to aid you apply to the commanding officer in your vicinity for aid by order of General Butler, showing this dispatch if necessary for that purpose. Answer if this can all be done.

PETER S. MICHIE,
First Lieutenant, U. S. Engineers, Acting Chief Engineer.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864.

The following dispatch received from the major-general commanding the department is promulgated for the information of this command:

AUGUST 14, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY:

Dispatch received. All honor to the brave Tenth Army Corps. These four guns will make a gap in the enemy's line by which I trust you will go through. You have done more than was expected of you by the lieutenant-general.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 25. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Fussell's Mill, Va., August 19, 1864.*

The major-general commanding congratulates the Tenth Army Corps on its success. It has on each occasion, when ordered, broken the enemy's strong lines, and has captured, during this short campaign, 4 siege guns, protected by the most formidable works, 6 colors, and many prisoners. It has proved itself worthy of its old Wagner and Sumter renown. Much fatigue, patience, and heroism may still be demanded of it, but the major-general commanding is confident of the response. To the colored troops recently added to us and fighting with us the major-general commanding tenders his thanks for their uniform good conduct and soldierly bearing, setting a good example to our veterans by the entire absence of straggling on the march.

By command of Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 19, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. W. Turner, commanding Second Division, will assume command of the troops at Deep Bottom.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 75. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS, *Near Hatcher's, Va., August 19, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

2. Pursuant to instructions from headquarters Tenth Army Corps, Brig. Gen. J. W. Turner hereby assumes command of the troops at Deep Bottom, Va.

By order of Brigadier-General Turner:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Capt., Forty-seventh New York Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE, KAUTZ'S DIVISION,
August 19, 1864—4 p. m.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, WARREN'S CORPS:

SIR: In obedience to verbal orders from the commanding general, I have the honor to report that my headquarters are on the railroad at Perkins' house, south of the general's quarters about one mile.

I am, sir, with high respect, your obedient servant,

SAML. P. SPEAR,
Colonel Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS, &C.,
August 19, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Lieut. Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: About the center of my line was charged at 8 o'clock by one company of rebel cavalry and the enemy handsomely repulsed. I send

two prisoners captured. They report three regiments of cavalry on my front, on the Vaughan road. The First District of Columbia Cavalry will be here to-night. I have strengthened my pickets and will make a thorough reconnaissance at daylight, and report in person. If you could let me have one company of infantry at once I could use them at great advantage. One of the prisoners is a very intelligent, shrewd man.

Very respectfully,

S. P. SPEAR,
Colonel, Commanding Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I send you two dispatches from General Warren, one received at 1 a. m. this day, from which I hoped Warren would be able to take the offensive. This morning, not hearing from him, a call was made for information, to which was sent the dispatch* of Colonel Locke, assistant adjutant-general, now forwarded. A deserter who came in last night asserts, as many have done previously, that the enemy are mining on Beauregard's front.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I forward dispatch† just received from General Warren, from which you will see all hopes of any offensive movements on his part are at an end, and that it is now questionable whether he can establish a line with his present force from the Weldon road to the plank road. Instructions have been sent to him to employ Gregg's cavalry and the working party from City Point in destroying the railroad and not to detach any part of his infantry.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—12.50 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I send two dispatches received this a. m. Your attention is called to the statement of the deserter from Finegan's brigade, which is directly in conflict with the report from General Hancock this a. m., both parties averring of their own knowledge that Wright and Perrin, of Mahone, are at the same time in front of Hancock and Warren.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* See Locke to Humphreys, 9.20 a. m., p. 338.
† See Warren to Meade, 10 a. m., p. 338.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A rebel deserter just sent in states that he left his regiment, Second Florida, Finegan's brigade, still occupying their old position at about 11 p. m. yesterday. Finegan's brigade, he thinks, is the only brigade of Mahone's division left in the trenches. He states that Sanders and Wright's brigades returned from north side of James River night before last; says he is well acquainted with members of Wright's brigade, whom he saw yesterday, and was told by them that the other brigade of the division had also returned. He thinks they marched down the railroad, as they did not take position in vicinity of Finegan's command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
August 20, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: A deserter from the Forty-eighth North Carolina Regiment, Cooke's brigade, Heth's division, who left his picket-line last night and arrived here this morning, reports that his brigade was lying in the trenches when he saw it last (yesterday evening). The right of Cooke's brigade rests on the fort in front of old Chimney, and extends to within about 400 yards of the mine. Kirkland's brigade is on the right of Cooke's. Fry's (Walker's old), and Davis' brigades, he states, have gone down the railroad below lead-works. This man seems quite confident that the enemy are mining somewhere on Beauregard's line, as volunteer miners were called for, and several from his regiment were at work somewhere on the left of Heth's division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 20, 1864—1.10 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE, *Commanding, &c.:*

I have ordered General Hancock to withdraw from the north side of the river to-night and move back to his old position. When there you can send him to the support of Warren with the other brigade of Gregg's cavalry. If the enemy comes out to attack, we will have the advantage of position. If they hold their lines only and persist in sending more troops to the Valley we can extend still farther. I am not so particular about holding the Weldon road permanently as I am to destroy it effectually, and to force the enemy to attack us, with advantages on our side. Two hundred railroad men with Hancock were ordered yesterday to report to Warren. They must be near there now, and will destroy more railroad in a day than a division of troops.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—1.45 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your telegram of 1.10 received. The working party referred to passed here at 9.30 a. m. and are without doubt now with Warren, but, I fear, like Gregg's cavalry, they will report themselves exhausted and unfit for service from long marching. The roads are very bad and very trying to man and horse. Hancock will not probably be here before 8 or 9 to-morrow morning, and will then also be tired and exhausted. I propose to detain him on the plank road and let him hold as far to the left of that road as practicable, thus freeing the Ninth Corps to operate with Warren on the Weldon railroad and covering the left flank. If the idea of extending beyond the Weldon railroad is entertained, it is absolutely essential a strongly fortified line should be constructed and held between that railroad and the Jerusalem plank road. Hancock can make such line to meet the line now held by Warren and part of the Ninth Corps. As it is made and strengthened Hancock can extend to the line and free more of the Ninth or Fifth Corps. If such line is not made any force on the railroad is liable to have both flanks turned. With this line the enemy will be compelled to maneuver on our left flank, where we can collect available reserves to meet him.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 20, 1864—3.40 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

You can use the Second Corps as you propose. I have no idea of extending farther to the left, unless, as stated in my dispatch, the enemy should persist in sending more troops to the Valley. I want to hold the Weldon road, though, permanently if easily done, and to thoroughly destroy it if it cannot be held.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 20, 1864—8.15 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

Richmond papers of to-day claim to have captured 2,000 prisoners from Warren. Is not this far above his estimate? What number did Warren capture, and what does he estimate the loss of the enemy at?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Warren's return of casualties for the 18th shows 392 missing. His report this morning, which I forwarded to you, gave 1,500 as all the losses of his corps yesterday, but did not discriminate between the killed, wounded, and missing. I have sent your telegram to him with directions to let me know the missing in his corps and the Ninth on the

20th. His losses, I know, from reports of others, were nearly all in prisoners. No succinct report of the affair has been made, and I have sent you all I have received.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 20, 1864—12 noon.*

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL:

Cavalry horses are needed to mount dismounted men. I will inform you shortly how many as soon as Generals Gregg and Kautz can be heard from. I had asked for 500, part of which have been received. Please cause more to be sent at once, if possible. Both these generals are doing successful fighting on the Weldon road, and if kept well supplied now with horses may be able soon to strike the Danville road.

INGALLS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Col. G. H. SHARPE,
City Point:

Deserter from Finegan, who came in this a. m., states that Wright's and Sanders' brigades returned from other side of James on night of 18th instant. I understand the following to be the position of the enemy's troops: Mahone's, Harris', Perrin's, Wright's, Colquitt's, Clingman's, Fry's and Davis' brigades, in front of the Fifth Corps; Ransom relieved Clingman; Cooke and Kirkland are still in the trenches; Finegan with balance of Beauregard's command still occupy their old positions.

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 20, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from Richardson's battery of Washington Artillery, just examined, states substantially as follows: He left his battery this morning about 10 o'clock, and walked into our lines near the plank road. The Washington Artillery is at present stationed in the enemy's advanced fort on their right of the plank road. There are six guns (four howitzers and two rifled guns) in that fort. The guns are removed from that position every night and taken in rear of the main line of works. They are returned about 3 a. m. every day. Informant states that the three brigades of Mahone's division, viz, Sanders', Harris', and Wright's, which were on the north side of James River, returned to our front yesterday evening. This is confirmed by a prisoner from the Fourteenth Alabama Regiment, who was sent in by Fifth Corps to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

CITY POINT, *August 20, 1864.*
(Received 8.15 p. m.)

Captain MCENTEE,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

We have news from Orange Court-House from our own men up to Wednesday morning last. No troops had passed there from General Lee's army since the division of Longstreet's corps, which passed two weeks ago to-day, except Fitzhugh Lee's cavalry. Both the old men agree that no infantry has passed either way for the past two weeks. Deserters sent in from General Hancock left their lines after sunrise this morning. Late last night Field's division and the two brigades of Anderson's division were still on General Hancock's front. What else they did not know, if any, except that there was still right smart of cavalry on north side. The line of Pickett's division between the two rivers remains unchanged.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

(Same to Lieutenant Davenport.)

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
In the Field, August 20, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
Deputy Provost-Marshal-General, City Point:

Nothing new, save deserters report six regiments of Pickett's division as having left our front and gone to the north side of the James.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp, and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 20, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Major FISHER:

All quiet. Camps unchanged.

H. W. FULTON.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 20, 1864—10 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Impossible to make observations on account of the unfavorable condition of the atmosphere. Heavy firing on our left on line of Weldon railroad.

H. W. FULTON.

STATION NEAR GIBBON'S HOUSE,
August 20, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

A brigade of about 1,500 rebel infantry moved out of Petersburg at 11 this a. m., moving to the left. The enemy are very busy strengthening the four-gun battery to the left of white house on Cemetery Hill.

A. C. JORDAN.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—1.25 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch received from station near the Gibbon house:

12.30 P. M.

Another column of infantry, about 2,000 in number, has just moved out of city at a cross roads, going to the left. No trains or artillery.

JORDAN.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

I have notified W[arren], and of the former report.
A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch received from the station near the Gibbon house:

4.20 P. M.

Three regiments of infantry have just passed out of the city, moving toward our left. They were followed by six ambulances and four wagons. Two caissons on the same road, moving toward the city.

A. C. JORDAN.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

STATION NEAR GIBBON'S HOUSE,
August 20, 1864—6.20 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Nothing new since report of 4.20 p. m.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 20, 1864—7 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 5.30 p. m. three regiments of infantry moved to our left on Weldon railroad, many stragglers passing and repassing on same road during the day. No other movements visible from here to-day.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

AUGUST 20, 1864.

Capt. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

Rebel message received as follows:

Colonel B[RENT],
Assistant Adjutant-General:

As soon as fog cleared up observed unusual activity, from which I supposed movements had been taking place. One regiment of infantry in old camp in open space to our left of Cobb's. Three companies of cavalry just crossing pontoon from Chesterfield. Six pieces of artillery, with eight horses to each, and sixteen wagons crossed, going in the same direction. Eight ambulances passed Broadway road going toward City Point. Stragglers constantly crossing pontoon going toward Petersburg. Heavy works at the end of Gilliam's farm have been manned.

OPERATOR
at C.

(Same to A. B.)

Very respectfully,

THOS. H. FEAREY,
Second Lieutenant.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—2.30 p. m.

The following project for the disposition of the three corps, in accordance with communications received from the lieutenant-general commanding armies in the field, is sent for your information and guidance:

1. Major-General Hancock will withdraw from Deep Bottom to-night and reach the vicinity of his former camp toward noon to-morrow, when, with his corps, he will hold the intrenchments now held by Mott's division and extend from the plank road toward the Weldon railroad, in the direction of the position held by the Fifth Corps on that road, and intrench strongly, slashing wherever it can be done.

2. Major-General Parke, commanding Ninth Corps, will withdraw Ferrero's division to-night from the redoubts and trenches, where it is now held in support of Mott's division, and mass it in rear until the same are occupied by General Hancock's troops, when, with his corps, he will hold on Hancock's left, as far toward the Fifth Corps as practicable, strengthening his position by intrenchments, slashing, &c.

3. Major-General Warren will occupy the remainder of the line to the Weldon railroad and the left of the army covering that road, and will strengthen his position by every means in his power.

4. The line from the plank road to the Weldon railroad need not be pushed up against the enemy's works, but will be established by the corps commanders on the best ground for holding between the intrenchments on the plank road and the position where the left must rest on the Weldon railroad.

5. The remainder of Gregg's cavalry will be moved from Deep Bottom to-night, and the cavalry now with the army will picket on its left and rear and cover the operation of destroying the Weldon railroad.

6. So far as it can be done consistently with the security of his present position and operations, General Warren will have such parts of the intrenchments and slashings made on the lines indicated as he may find practicable.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
City Point, Va., August 20, 1864.

Capt. H. V. SLOSSON,
Comdg. Company D, Fifteenth New York Vol. Engineers:

You will proceed with eighty men and the two officers of your company in charge of the raft now making up to Broadway Landing on the Appomattox, where you will lay your bridge. You will be careful not to go up the river far enough to be seen by the enemy until after dark. You will take tin lanterns with you, taking care that they shall not be seen. In order to prevent this keep a man between the light and the enemy. To-morrow morning you will leave your two lieutenants and sixty men in charge of the bridge, and return yourself with the balance of your command to this place. The men who are to remain will take two days' rations with them. A tug will be in readiness to take you up the river between 5 and 5.30 this p. m. It is expected that the bridge will be laid before 9.30 p. m.

By order of Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
City Point, Va., August 20, 1864.

Lieut. F. S. LIVINGSTON, *Aide-de-Camp:*

As soon as General Hancock's troops have crossed the bridge at Broadway Landing you will cause it to be rafted and brought here again with Captain Slosson's company, retaining the tug you have with you for this purpose.

By order of Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Reports from General Gregg as to losses, &c., have not been received beyond that of last night. The following are the numbers of missing, including stragglers and those supposed to be captured, exclusive of the cavalry operating on this side of the river (this includes the 14th instant). Missing, unaccounted for, 9 officers and 540 men; supposed to be captured, 7 officers and 363 men. The report of the cavalry as to men and horses will be furnished you as soon as received. The losses were given by General Gregg last night, and are supposed to be correct. They were trifling.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

General GRANT, *City Point:*

The following is General Gregg's report of men and horses missing, corrected from that of last night. I send it that the report may be complete: Men, 36; horses, 35. The greater part of these horses were

swamped in Deep Creek and abandoned. It is not known whether any of them lived to be extricated by the enemy. While in the swamp many were shot.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 20, 1864—9.40 a. m.*

Major-General HANCOCK:

You may withdraw from the north of the river to-night, marching by way of Bermuda Hundred and across the Appomattox at the pontoon bridge back to your old camp. Leave the Tenth Corps to cover the crossing of the Second Corps and cavalry. After you are entirely out of the way, the Tenth Corps will return to their places at once, or may take up a shorter line and hold it until to-morrow night, as you and General Birney may deem most advisable. If anything through the day should give you an advantage where you are, this order will not be observed.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864. (Received 10.45 a. m.)

General GRANT:

A deserter from Forty-fourth Alabama, Law's brigade, Field's division, came in this morning. He states that the enemy have one brigade in single rank and seven or eight guns on the high hill on the New Market road to the right and left. Their troops are deployed in the usual order; does not know of any change in troops. He saw a brigade moving to our right a little before dark last night, but does not know where they came from or who they were. Says the talk among the men is that two divisions are there, and that there is no doubt but what Kershaw's division has gone to Early, but they are looking for it back. Thinks Pickett is still across the James. His regiment has about 100 muskets; started with nearly 900, many of whom have deserted. Says Alabama is full of deserters. His regiment was under marching orders night before last, during the firing at Petersburg. He knows that this morning, besides all of Field's division, Sanders', late Perrin's, brigade, and Wright's brigade, of Mahone's division, are there; also McGowan's brigade, of Wilcox's division. General Lee was there the evening the enemy attacked General Birney. From his account this attack was a general affair, the whole line being under orders to advance if the attack on our right was successful. He says they knew that the Tenth Corps and part of the Second Corps are here.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Same to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—12.10 p. m.

General GRANT:

Is there a pontoon bridge at Bermuda Hundred? I am ordered to march to Bermuda Hundred, but it is not stated whether a bridge has been thrown there or whether I am to cross at Point of Rocks.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

CITY POINT, *August 20, 1864—1.50 p. m.*

General HANCOCK:

You will cross at Point of Rocks. If material for a bridge at Broadway Landing can be raked together one will be thrown across there. Of this you will soon be advised.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I sent you a dispatch this morning, asking whether I was to go back by way of Bermuda Hundred Landing, as might be implied from the order, or whether it was intended I should cross at Point of Rocks by the usual route. Thinking you may not have received the dispatch, I repeat the substance.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
August 20, 1864—3 p. m. (Received 3.37 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires me to say that there will be two bridges for you to cross the Appomattox on, one at Point of Rocks, the other at Broadway, and that thus, with the two bridges at Deep Bottom, you will have two roads for your movement. I think but one of the bridges at Deep Bottom is prepared for wagons.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

CITY POINT, *August 20, 1864—3.10 p. m.*
(Received 3.35 p. m.)

General HANCOCK:

A pontoon will be laid at Broadway Landing this evening, and will be ready for you two hours after dark.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *August 20, 1864—4 p. m.*
(Received 4.26 p. m.)

General HANCOCK:

The words Bermuda Hundred should not have occurred in my dispatch. As Colonel Comstock telegraphed there will be two bridges across the Appomattox, one at Point of Rocks and one at Broadway, and you should take the best route from Deep Bottom to them.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 20, 1864—4.20 p. m.*

Major-General HANCOCK:

There will be a bridge for you at Broadway, on the Appomattox, and the old bridge at Point of Rocks, giving you two lines to move on.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 20, 1864.

General GRANT:

Richmond Sentinel of 20th says:

About 3 o'clock this evening, 19th, the arrangements being completed, our forces attacked in front and flank Warren's Yankee corps which had made a temporary lodgment on the Weldon railroad two miles below here, driving them two miles, capturing over 2,000 prisoners, including General Hayes and a number of stand of colors. No news from any other sources.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

My chief of staff, who is at General Butler's headquarters, informs me that the roads are three feet in water in some places. He says that the troops cannot be over before morning; therefore I have directed them to proceed under the orders to their destination. The night is very dark, and, of course, there will be a great deal of difficulty on that account. One division complete is over and the other is crossing, as is the cavalry. General Birney will cross to-night. The Second Corps and the cavalry will be over at 11 o'clock.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Same to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864. (Received 5.10 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

Will you oblige me once more by picketing the road to your bridge with cavalry at points where a column might go astray? I will not trouble you to build fires. The infantry will go by your bridge. General Gregg takes the left-hand road to Broadway, and will send a party of his own cavalry to picket that road.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 20, 1864. (Received 9.30 p. m.)

General HANCOCK,
Deep Bottom:

I have come over the road this far. The train is getting along very well, though some of the wagons are overturned. The troops cannot

get through to-night. The road is horrible, in many places being knee-deep with water on account of the rain. Unless there is some pressing military necessity, the command ought to stop here and go on to-morrow night. Not more than one-half of them will get over the Appomattox by daylight. One train is taking that upper bridge, which was not the order.

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

The following movements of troops are directed:

1. At dark the First Division, Second Corps, Brigadier-General Miles commanding, will move to the road running from near the cross-roads opposite the center of his division to the lower pontoon bridge and cross the James; thence across the Appomattox to its old camp near the Deserted House.

2. The Second Division, Colonel Smyth commanding, will move by the New Market and Long Bridge road, following closely after the First Division, from the Gate Posts, and returning to its old camp near the Southall house.

3. The Tenth Corps at dark will move from its present position by the road to be indicated by a staff officer from these headquarters, and will mass in the clear ground next the bridge, remaining in position to cover the bridge until the withdrawal of the Second Corps and cavalry.

4. The cavalry, Brigadier-General Gregg commanding, will move at dark by way of Strawberry Plains to the bridge, crossing immediately after Second Corps, and reporting to Major-General Meade, Army of the Potomac.

5. The artillery now on this side of the river, assigned to divisions Second Corps, will move with the divisions. The remaining batteries now on the south side of the river will be conducted to their former camps near the Deserted House by the chief of artillery, moving promptly at dark.

6. All wagons and ambulances now with the troops will cross the bridge in rear of the commands to which they belong. Second Corps headquarters train will move in rear of the First Division train.

7. The train of the Second Corps, now on the south side of the river, will move out at dark, following the corps artillery, under charge of Captain McEntee, assistant quartermaster, and cross the Appomattox at Point of Rocks. This train must not obstruct the march of troops.

8. The cavalry pickets will be withdrawn in time to cross the river with their command. General Gregg will notify Major-General Birney before withdrawing his cavalry.

9. The infantry pickets will be withdrawn at 10 p. m.

10. Major-General Birney will resume his former position at Bermuda Hundred, after crossing the James.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

There are two bridges for the use of the troops crossing the James River to-night. The order for recrossing is so far modified as to direct that the First and Second Divisions, Second Corps, cross the right-hand (upper) bridge, followed by their transportation now on this side of the river. The cavalry cross the left-hand (lower) bridge. The artillery and wagons of the cavalry will be obliged to take the upper bridge, unless the approaches to the lower one are made practicable. After the cavalry have passed General Birney can make use of both bridges to cross his corps. After crossing the infantry will keep to the right, giving the left of the road to the cavalry.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—9.10 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general is desirous of learning the condition of affairs with you—whether you attacked this morning and with what result.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—9.20 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Your dispatch received. General Warren is out on the line at present. I have the honor to report that all was quiet at daybreak this morning, and since that hour there has been only a little picket-firing. The enemy are still where they were last night.

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—[10 a. m.].

General MEADE:

General Ayres lost about 400 men; General Crawford, 800; General Cutler, about 300. I am getting the troops in order for fighting in case they attack again and assemble them in reserves. I do not think with our present force we can hold a line across where I established the picket-line yesterday. Nearly all my losses were occasioned by being turned on my right in the woods. The present picket-line runs east and west nearly by the Strong house. I will endeavor to re-establish the picket-line I had yesterday. I believe the enemy has retired into his defenses again, leaving out only a picket, or it may be preparing for another demonstration somewhere. The cavalry from General Gregg's division are just arriving. Shall I send them down to Reams' Station? I believe they are enough to drive away the enemy there, and

I do not think it best to send a brigade of infantry away without first reporting so to you. I can add the District of Columbia cavalry to that of Gregg's division as well as not.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your dispatch dated 10 a. m. is received. You need not send the infantry with the cavalry to Reams' Station. Gregg's brigade, strengthened by such other cavalry as you can add to it, will be sufficient. Have the working party of 200 men from the quartermaster's department at City Point to be used in destroying the railroad reached you yet? They should accompany the cavalry.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—11.35 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Colonel Spear says he thinks the enemy, up to last night at least, had only a small brigade of cavalry on our left. He thinks there were none at Reams' Station last night. I can send Colonel Spear out at once and he is anxious; he can go with 700 men. He ranks Colonel Stedman. Colonel Stedman's command, I understand, though tired, is ready to march.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—11.20 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have just received the dispatch you sent here to General Parke.* He is not here yet. The dispatch I sent you gives our picket-line quite nearly. It runs nearly east and west from the Strong house. I believe it there rejoins the old line. General Potter's command now holds it, and he is reconnoitering to the front. The enemy's pickets are in the same place on the railroad. My cavalry on the Vaughan road, as we call it, near Flowers', see nothing but the enemy's cavalry. There are no cavalry movements south of us visible. A rebel ambulance man was captured, who said he had heard said their cavalry in some force moved out of Petersburg this morning, but he did not see them. The enemy must have lost considerably in killed and wounded yesterday, but the woods prevent our getting any estimate of their dead. Colonel Spear reports to me that from his own reconnaissance he has found the position of the enemy's cavalry, and that he has now enough force to attack and rout them. Expecting General Gregg's cavalry for some

* See 11 a. m., p. 346.

time, I have kept Colonel Spear waiting their arrival. General Gregg's cavalry are now at the Gurley house, and report themselves very tired from marching all night. The working party has not come yet to destroy the railroad. I have sent for Colonel Spear and will see what cavalry he can send with the others and will let all go that I can. Do you wish the cavalry to wait for the working force?

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—12 m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

The detachment of railroad men have not arrived.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

The railroad party passed these headquarters on their way to you at 9.30 a. m.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

The major-general commanding desires as soon as the railroad party come up that they be put to destroying the road, commencing where you are and working southward; that Colonel Stedman's brigade of cavalry be used to protect them during the operation, and that you send Colonel Spear to feel toward the left as you proposed, he cooperating in the protection of the railroad party when necessary.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—1.50 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The following, just sent in by General Willcox, is sent for your information:

James Crowley, of Company A, Twenty-second Regiment of Virginia, Walker's brigade, Heth's division, A. P. Hill's corps, states that he expects we will get out of here before night, because Corsair's [Corse's] division is expected up. This is a full division of Beauregard's troops. He also states that there are heavy guns in strong earth-works on the railroad in front of us.

HARRY LITTLEJOHN,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The signal officer at Gibbon's house reports, at 12.30 p. m., a column of infantry, about 2,000 strong, moving out of Petersburg toward the enemy's right. About two hours ago he reported a brigade of enemy's infantry moving from Petersburg in same direction.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your dispatch of 1.50 p. m. received. Corse commands a brigade in Pickett's division, which has been doing all the operations in front of Bermuda Hundred. Probably this is the body of troops reported by the signal officer at Gibbon's house.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—2.40 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: I have examined James Crowley. He is an Irishman and talks singularly. He says he has no doubt they will give us a fight to-day to try and drive us out. He does not know anything about what he calls Corsair's [Corse's] division, of Beauregard's troops, but supposes they will use everything to get us away. His statement seems based upon his own opinions, and he is an ignorant fellow. I think, however, it is quite true that they will attack us, but I think we ought to be able to hold against everything. I am preparing to fight all around and not hold a long line so that our communications may be interrupted in case of an attack.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The signal officer at Gibbon's house reports, at 4.20 p. m., three regiments of infantry moving out of Petersburg south of the town.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Have the railroad party reported to you, and have they commenced work?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The railroad detachment has reported and has been directed to go to work at once.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I think the man who came into General Butler's lines must have meant Kershaw's brigade instead of Corse's.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Kershaw's old brigade is believed to be in the Shenandoah Valley with Kershaw's division. Why do you suppose the deserter to Butler's lines referred to Kershaw's brigade?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Colonel Locke wrote the dispatch for me. I meant him to say that the man Crowley that I took to-day might have meant Kershaw. He did not know exactly how to pronounce the name, and it might have been Corse or Kershaw.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

General Butler's telegram about Corse's brigade was in reply to one from General Meade inquiring for intelligence of Corse's brigade.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general would like to know how your troops are disposed, in order to give instructions understandingly to General Hancock and General Parke in regard to the extent of line they will probably be required to hold under the directions issued this afternoon.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—8.25 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The following dispatch* from the lieutenant-general commanding the armies in the field is sent you so that you may furnish the information asked for and enable the commanding general to answer it as soon as possible. Please include the losses, if any, of the troops of the Ninth Corps serving with you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

AUGUST 20, 1864. (Received 3.40 p. m.)

General WARREN:

General Potter's picket-line holds that house in the corn-field and are intrenching themselves on a very good line. The rebels have left the place where they were last night.

W. A. ROEBLING.

CIRCULAR, No. 109. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

In case we are attacked again, the commanding officers must take pains to control their men's firing, and, if possible, fire by front and rear rank alternately, being careful to reserve their fire for the line of

* See Grant to Meade, 8.15 p. m., p. 328.

battle. One good volley well put in will render the enemy's line powerless. When the firing continues and but few bullets come back, the firing must cease and a thin skirmish line advanced, and a division commander can order a charge or an advance whenever he deems it advisable without waiting for further sanction.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the line remains the same. My pickets are confronting the enemy's. Occasional shots are exchanged. I sent you a report from the cavalry officer sent out to the left. He speaks of a raid being in progress around to our left. My front is about as strong as it can be as a single line. The enemy made two attempts along the railroad last evening after the line was re-established and were driven back handsomely.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the cavalry pickets report the enemy felling timber on my left beyond the road which comes into the railroad to our front. The work is going on briskly. I have just now a report that the enemy are marching a large force of infantry down to our left of the road mentioned above.

Very respectfully, yours,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General AYRES:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding is of the opinion that what the enemy are endeavoring to [do] on your left is to get some artillery around there to fire over this way, and if they do they will not be able to touch your line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—5.45 p. m.

General AYRES:

I hear from General Humphreys, too, that some force has been seen going out from Petersburg to-day. The same was seen yesterday. They may design to attack us again to-day and try the left this time, or they may be extending their intrenchments to the left to keep us from investing Petersburg.

G. K. WARREN.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the work of throwing down the breast-works in our front will be finished, and a slashing made up to (or near) the picket-line, by midnight or thereabouts. Colonel Hofmann will also be in position and intrenched by that time. I desire to know where I shall encamp my division, as but a small portion of it will be required in the line of the artillery around my headquarters.

Very respectfully,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 45. } HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

1. The Fifteenth Regiment New York Artillery is hereby assigned temporarily to the First Brigade, and the commanding officer of the regiment will report without delay to Col. Frederick Winthrop, commanding brigade.

By command of Brigadier-General Ayres:

GEO. L. CHOISY,
First Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 111. } HDQRS. 2D BRIG., 2D DIV., 5TH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

I. Major Mobley being wounded in the battle of the 18th instant, while gallantly leading his regiment, thus leaving the regiment without a field officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Barrett, Fourth Maryland Volunteers, is assigned to the command of the Seventh Maryland Volunteers. The men of this regiment are as good and faithful as any in the brigade, but have become sadly demoralized because of the inefficiency and want of attention on the part of some of the line officers. It gives me pleasure to say that there are some honorable exceptions to this censure. Lieutenant-Colonel Barrett will have occasion to use all his well-known firmness and discretion in the effort to bring this regiment back to its former efficiency, and to this end he will report to these headquarters all officers who do not freely and fully do their duty. This order to remain in effect until further orders. This order will be read at the head of the regiment at its first dress-parade after its reception.

II. In case we are attacked again the commanding officers must take pains to control their men firing, and, if possible, fire by front and rear

rank alternately, being careful to reserve their fire for the line of battle. One good volley well put in will render the enemy's line powerless. Where the firing continues and few bullets come back, the firing must cease and their skirmish line advanced.

III. Each regiment will detail five men to relieve those chopping and slashing at the timber in our front. Colonel Bowerman's detail will include one sergeant. They will report at these headquarters.

By command of Colonel Dushane:

J. BANKERD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864. (Received 3.40 p. m.)

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE:

SIR: I have extended the rifle-pits from the left of the batteries to the little ravine. Does the general wish to have the line extended farther to the left on the next ridge? General Ayres thinks it is intended to cover that ground with the batteries near the railroad.

Very respectfully,

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—9.05 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Mott has just reported that the connection with General Warren's right is perfected.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding desires to know where your picket-line on the left is—where it connects with General Warren's, &c. Please describe it so that it may be marked on the maps, or send a map with the line indicated.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have just arrived. I found your dispatch of 11 a. m. As far as I now know General Warren has answered your dispatch.* After leaving the connection with Warren's left, I purpose returning along my line from Warren's right.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

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* See 11.20 a. m., p. 339.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

In the event of General Warren being attacked this afternoon have you any troops that you can send to his support? Supports in the line of rear works might be withdrawn in such case.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—4.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

In the absence of General Parke on the line I have the honor to reply to your dispatch of 3.45 that Thomas' brigade (colored), Fourth Division, is in reserve.

R. A. HUTCHINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—3.50 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The order of 2.30 p. m., by which you are to withdraw to-night such troops as you may have in the redoubts, &c., of the second line of works, supporting Mott's division, is not intended to refer to the redoubts on the plank road, which cover the left and are in the first line.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:

COLONEL: The officer in charge of my skirmish line reports having advanced about half a mile and still advancing without finding the enemy. They will continue to advance if the line to their left advances. How far is it intended they should go? They have no connection on their right.

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—7 a. m.

Respectfully referred to General Willcox for his information.

General Willcox will send a brigade with Major Roebling, aide-de-camp, to establish the picket-line. General Warren thinks it best for

General Potter to halt until the picket-line is established by Major Roebling, and General Willcox will please send word to General Potter to that effect.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:

COLONEL: We have connected with some troops of your corps on the right who were cut off yesterday afternoon. They report that they connect with Mott's division, of the Second Corps, on the right. We have picked up a few stragglers.

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have changed my headquarters to the center of a large field near the Gurley house to north of road.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieut. Col. C. H. MORGAN,
Chief of Staff, Second Army Corps:

COLONEL: The reports from my pickets this morning are to effect that there is an appearance of small parties of rebels on the New Market road beyond its intersection with the Charles City road and on several of the roads north of the Charles City road. At several places they have been seen removing barricades on those roads north of the Charles City road. The vedettes at Deep Run report a movement of a force of perhaps two regiments across the front toward our right. Timely notice will be had of any advance. If this should be made, it would be better met by a force thrown a little farther out on the hill to the right of General Birney's present position.

Yours, respectfully,

D. MCM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your command will cross at Broadway. You will perhaps find some of our wagons on that road, though they will probably be over before you start. The general suggests that you send a small party ahead to picket your road, so there may be no mistake.

Yours, &c.,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 20, 1864.

Col. C. H. SMITH,
Commanding Second Brigade, Second Division:

COLONEL: You will withdraw your brigade from its present position at dark, and move by way of Malvern Hill to the plain on James River, and there mass your brigade until the divisions of the Second Army Corps shall have crossed the bridge, when you will move over and proceed by way of the pontoon bridge at Broadway, on the Appomattox, to the vicinity of headquarters Army of the Potomac, where you will receive further orders. The pickets will not be withdrawn until 9 p. m. The regiments on picket will be withdrawn by the Malvern Hill road.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 20, 1864—1.40 p. m. (Received 2.25 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding, &c.:

Two deserters from Pickett's division have just come in, one a very intelligent man. He informs me that six regiments have been taken from Pickett's division and sent across the James River; that on our left, opposite Port Walthall, they have reduced the line, so that the line of battle is scarcely stronger than the skirmish line, being one man in every twenty feet. I believe this statement. I think the weak point now is in front of our line, and if we had the Tenth Corps here I have no doubt we could go out on the left; at least I should be inclined to try it. I do not think we have over 3,500 men between the two rivers. That you may judge for yourself, I will send you the deserter, with yesterday's paper. Please question him. Allow me also to call your attention to the fact that the last of the 100-days' regiments go away from me to-day. Certainly, in the absence of the Tenth Corps, I have no one whom I can send to Fort Powhatan or Fort Pocahontas. Allow me to suggest that as the colored troops of the Ninth Corps are so much demoralized and broken up for want of officers, if they could be sent to me, by putting the weaker ones in Powhatan and Pocahontas, they might be recruited up and got into condition.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 20, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding, &c.:*

The Tenth Corps—in fact, all the troops from north of the James—are ordered to return to-night. When this change is made it will probably induce the enemy to strengthen his weak point in your front before we can take advantage of it. If you can get through, however, I should like it very much. In regard to sending you the colored troops of the Ninth Corps, it is now impossible. The Eighteenth Corps and colored troops of the Ninth Corps are holding all of our line at Petersburg, whilst the white troops of the Ninth are operating with the Fifth Corps.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 20, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

Prisoners say Corse's brigade, of Pickett's division, is moving south of the Appomattox to my left. Have you any information bearing on the subject?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 20, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE, *Commanding:*

I have a deserter from the Thirty-second Virginia Regiment, Corse's brigade; came in 12 o'clock last night.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Copy sent by Meade to Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
City Point, August 20, 1864.

Capt. T. LUBEY,
Commanding Pontoon Detachment, Deep Bottom:

At daylight in the morning you will direct Captain Henderson to raft his bridge, preparatory to having it towed to this place. He will bring his company with him. A tug will be sent to tow the bridge down at 9 a. m.

By order of General Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 95. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
In the Field, Va., August 20, 1864.

Col. R. C. Webster, quartermaster, having been assigned by the War Department as chief quartermaster of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, is announced as such, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that he prefers you should not discharge the muskets unless you consider it essential to the serviceable condition of your command. Unless something new is developed to-day it is probable your command will recross to-night and you will have the opportunity to-morrow. The general would like to have you send your wagons, &c., during the afternoon, to park near the bridge preparatory to your withdrawal, but not on any of the roads leading to the bridge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 20, 1864—6 p. m.

Maj. Gen. D. B. BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to furnish you with the following extract from the telegraphic order for the movement of to-night, which embraces all the instructions with which he is charged for you after you cross: "The Tenth Corps will return to their places at once," &c.

I am, general, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel MCGILVERY,
Chief of Artillery:

The major-general commanding directs that you watch the pontoons, and as soon as one is clear take your batteries across, and send them to their camps.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

Division commanders and chief of artillery will, during the afternoon, send to the rear all wagons, excepting five wagons of small-arm ammunition, preparatory to a withdrawal during the night to our former camps. All the sick able to march and non-combatants will be returned to their camp, and every care will be taken against straggling. Extraordinary care must be taken by division commanders in inspecting the picket-line, and seeing that that duty is performed with great

vigilance. The pickets will be withdrawn under the corps officer of the day, and full instructions for the movement will be given in due time. The enemy are reported moving to our right, and great caution must be used.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864—4.45 p. m.

The following movements of the troops are directed: First. At dark, precisely, the troops under Brigadier-General Birney will move by a road to be indicated by a staff officer from these headquarters. Second. The batteries will follow and keep closed up. Third. General Terry's division will follow the batteries and act, if necessary, as a rear guard. Fourth. The corps pickets will be withdrawn exactly at 10 p. m., and follow under the direction of the corps officer of the day acting as a rear guard. Fifth. The corps will mass on the cleared ground near the bridge and remain in position until Major-General Hancock has crossed his troops, in order to cover the bridge, then, resuming same order, each command will march to its former camp. Brigadier-General Foster will relieve Lieutenant-Colonel Coan and his brigade at Deep Bottom. Sixth. Lieutenant-Colonel Washburn with his cavalry will bring up the rear, seeing that all stragglers are kept up.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General TERRY,
Commanding First Division:

The major-general commanding directs that you leave General Foster with his command in the works on his side of the river until morning, when he will cross and proceed to his old camp, relieving Lieutenant-Colonel Coan.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 76. } *Near Hatcher's, Va., August 20, 1864.*

1. Major Strong, Sixteenth Heavy Artillery, New York Volunteers, will report with his command to Col. N. M. Curtis, commanding First Brigade, Second Division, Tenth Army Corps, without delay.

By order of Brig. Gen. J. W. Turner:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Capt., Forty-seventh New York Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 20, 1864—12.40 p. m.*

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

Statements of deserters and refugees go to show that the enemy are mining in your front. Can you not countermine against them?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 20, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have had reports of the mines in my front for some time. Have two counter mines going now; can't hear much yet in them.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 20, 1864. (Received 4 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

Nothing reliable denoting a change in my front. No prisoners in. No movements of troops have been seen, except some small squads reported unofficially as seen moving toward left and rear yesterday p. m.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE, KAUTZ'S DIVISION,
August 20, 1864.

Lieut. Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Warren's Corps:

SIR: I have the honor to report the arrival of the First District of Columbia Cavalry. From a reconnaissance I know the position of the enemy's cavalry. I have sufficient force to attack and rout them, and respectfully ask permission to do so.

With high respect, your obedient servant,

S. P. SPEAR,
Colonel, Commanding Cavalry.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 21, 1864—11 a. m.*
(Received 6 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Taking possession of the Weldon road has made the enemy apparently very nervous. They have been constantly attacking to regain possession. I cannot report accurately the result, but apparently our losses have been light in killed and wounded, whilst the enemy's loss in that respect must have been heavy, from the fact of his being repulsed so often. The second day, however, we lost heavily in captured,

from the fact that the enemy enveloped Warren's right before he was aware of it. I withdrew the troops from north of the James River last night, and now the Second Corps must be nearly in supporting distance of Warren.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 21, 1864—1.30 p. m.*
(Received 22d.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

The enemy came out and attacked General Warren between 10 and 11 a. m., but were repulsed with great ease. No loss reported on our side except General Cutler, slightly wounded, and Colonel Dushane, killed. General Warren reports 400 prisoners captured that he knows of; there may be more. I am expecting a heavy attack this afternoon, and preparing for it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 21, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

Is the firing now heard on Warren's front? If so the enemy should be opened upon by the Ninth and Eighteenth Corps, and their line threatened.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—10 a. m.

General GRANT:

I send a dispatch* from Warren explanatory of the firing which has been resumed within the last few minutes. Hancock is moving up; also Parke with his Fourth Division. Warren, on the defensive, ought to be able not only to hold his position, but to punish the enemy severely, and undoubtedly would if we could only get our troops to act with the audacity the enemy show.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—10.25 a. m.

General GRANT:

I have ordered Ord and Mott to open with their batteries and make all the demonstrations they can against the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* See Warren to Humphreys, 9.30 a. m., p. 368.

CITY POINT, *August 21, 1864—11.20 a. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

It is hard to say what ought to be done without being on the field, but it seems to me that when the enemy comes out of his works and attacks and is repulsed he ought to be followed vigorously to the last minute with every man. Holding a line is of no importance whilst troops are operating in front of it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—12 m.

General GRANT:

Ord reports the enemy leaving his front. It is probably Martin's brigade, of Hoke's division, the only one left of that division in front of Ord last night, as reported by deserters. The enemy now holds his intrenched line with Johnson's division and part of Heth's, that is between the Appomattox and the plank road. I have asked Ord, if he cannot assault in his front, whether he cannot extend to his left so as to relieve part of Mott's division, Second Corps, now holding from Burnside's mine to the plank road. Hancock is now at the Strong house, west of the plank road, slashing trees to make an obstacle to the enemy's interposing between the plank road and Warren. If I can get a line of obstacles to be held by a skirmish line I can throw more troops to Warren's support. Warren reports the enemy moving to his left. I have sent him your dispatch, having previously advised him the way to stop the enemy's flanking was to assume the offensive and make him look out for his flanks. The difficulty of Warren's position is, the roads are impassable and his artillery cannot be moved. It is absolutely essential he should maintain his position, and I have no doubt of his ability to do so unless the enemy should bring so superior a force as to turn his left flank, in which case we cannot get our men to stand. They don't mind any orders when they find themselves outflanked, but move off bodily to the rear in spite of orders.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 21, 1864—12.45 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

If the enemy are moving to turn Warren's left, why can he not move out and attack between them and Petersburg, and either cut their force in two or get in rear of it? If the roads are impassable for our artillery it must be so for the enemy's, and it becomes an infantry fight. I will telegraph Ord either to assault or extend, so as to relieve more men. The enemy evidently intend to use nearly their entire force to drive Warren away, and we can either penetrate his line or hold ours with a very small force.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—1 p. m.

General GRANT:

Telegram 12.45 received. Instructions have gone to Warren embodying the spirit of your suggestions—that is, to assume the offensive. Ord has reported he can spare 800 men, and he has been requested to extend his left with that amount, and Mott allowed to extend his left proportionately. This will free so many men for Warren. I shall move Hancock up as soon as he can make anything of an obstacle to prevent the enemy getting in between Warren's position and the plank road. Telegraphic communication with Warren is interrupted just now. The main roads running into Petersburg are passable. It is the cross-roads which, by the passage of artillery and trains, have since the rains become impassable.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 21, 1864—1.10 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

Do you not think it likely the enemy are preparing for a heavy attack on Warren this afternoon? If such is the case, would it not be better to move Hancock up to his support at once, and leave the slashing to troops that will be set free by Ord? I have directed Ord either to assault on his front or to extend and relieve Mott, favoring the latter. You will know very soon which he thinks best.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

The following has just been received from General Warren. General Meade left here half an hour since for General Warren's headquarters. It is expected that we shall again have telegraphic communication with General Warren's headquarters in a few moments:

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 21, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy attacked us both on the north and west with Hill's and Beauregard's troops. We repulsed them, too, easily. They did not come on far enough to get the effect of our fire. I have a general order to push out, but the woods favor the escape of the troops. We have three battle-flags and probably 400 prisoners that I know of. I hope they will try again. General Cutler is wounded by a piece of shell in the face, not seriously. Colonel Dushane is killed.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

11.30 a. m.—All quiet now. The line being down I send this by an orderly.

G. K. W.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JONES' HOUSE, PLANK ROAD,
August 21, 1864—2.30 p. m.

General GRANT:

Telegram of 1.10 received. I had just ordered one division of Hancock's to Warren's left. I have now ordered the other one. The third (Mott's) is holding our intrenchments. I have sent you a dispatch from Warren announcing another repulse of the enemy. As soon as I get on the field and Hancock is up I will assume the offensive—before if practicable. Hancock's people, however, are very weary and will not be fit for much to-day and will not much more than get into position. The condition of the roads is a great drawback. Everything has to be packed across the plank road.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
Weldon Railroad, August 21, 1864—5.25 p. m.

General GRANT:

Hancock's men are so exhausted with their long march that nothing can be expected of them this afternoon. Having moved Hancock over to the left I have placed Parke on the right, and he is extending to make the line and connection over to the plank road. The enemy appear to have abandoned their intention of turning Warren's left and now show some signs of a movement on his right. My solicitude in desiring to have a line of slashings across to the plank road is based on the fact that the enemy may move on Warren's left and turn our intrenchments resting on the plank road, which cannot be held if turned. This would compel the abandonment of this position and might embarrass us to recover our intrenchments. If the enemy do not make this move before night, Parke I think will prepare the line so as to prevent it.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 21, 1864—8.30 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

Between the Appomattox and Baker's [Bake-House] Creek the enemy are supposed to be very weak. General Butler is preparing two assaulting columns to-night with the view of breaking that line at daylight in the morning. If successful he will endeavor to clear out the entire line of the enemy south from the Howlett house and establish himself with all his force on the line of Swift Creek. With the Tenth Corps he ought to be able to hold his ground all day, if he gets through, and could only be driven away by drawing largely from Petersburg. I cannot say now what is best to be done with your forces in connection with this, but notify you so that you can take advantage of any weakness of the enemy. I shall hear and inform you the results of Butler's efforts, and can tell better then the best directions to give.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—9.20 p. m.

General GRANT:

I have just returned from the front. I found it impracticable to arrange any offensive movements for to-morrow. Warren expressed every confidence in his command defending itself against any attack, but advised against attacking. Hancock's men are completely exhausted with their march, and nearly a third behind on the road. Parke's people will be working all night on the connecting lines. Under these circumstances, I gave orders to act on the defensive, but in the event of the enemy's attacking again to follow up their repulse. I think now we have thinned our line from the Appomattox to the plank road as much as we ought to do. Ord proposes to send more men, but I do not think it judicious to weaken him any more, because the enemy, finding an accumulation on our left, might mass, and by a bold assault break through our weakened line. I don't think this probable, but it is possible. Warren reports taking some 400 prisoners to-day.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 21, 1864—10 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

Your dispatch of 9.30 [9.20] p. m. just received. I send you a dispatch* in cipher, from which you will see, when received, that I do not expect offensive operations to-morrow except in case of a success in Butler's front making it practicable. If we can retain hold of the railroad it will be a great advantage. Has much of the railroad been destroyed? After the men get well rested it will be well to support the cavalry with a division of infantry to destroy as much of the road as we can, if an advantage is not gained in the meantime making it unnecessary. If Butler does not succeed in the morning he will relieve the Eighteenth Corps from the lines, leaving it loose. With that as a reserve, our lines will be strong.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—11 p. m.

General GRANT:

Your dispatch in cipher received.* I will be prepared to-morrow to act according to developments. Prisoners say that General W. H. F. Lee was mortally wounded to-day. I send this for what it is worth. The railroad party have been at work to-day, but I have received no report of their progress. Gregg's cavalry division are protecting them. In case it is necessary, a supporting force of infantry will be sent.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* See Grant to Meade, 8.30 p. m., p. 357.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point, Va.:

The whole of Mahone's division is certainly here. They arrived here at 8 o'clock yesterday morning. I understand the following to be the force in front of Fifth Corps: Clingman's, Colquitt's, Mahone's, Harris', Sanders', Wright's, Fry's, and Davis' brigades. The balance of Beauregard's, Heth's, and Mahone's commands are in the trenches on our front, occupying their old positions. Three brigades of Mahone, which returned, are also in front of Warren, fighting hard at this moment.

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

AUGUST 21, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Hagood's and Ransom's brigades are now in front of Fifth Corps. W. H. F. Lee's cavalry division was also engaged there this a. m., and General Rooney Lee badly wounded through lungs. So say prisoners from above commands.

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 21, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Three deserters from Wright's (Georgia) brigade who came in this morning make the following report:

They state that they have been on picket here for the last eleven days. During that time their brigade has been to the north side of the James River, and returned yesterday morning about 8 o'clock, together with Sanders' and Harris' brigades. They state that they camped in rear of their old position, and had orders to have their guns in order and be ready to march this morning about 2 o'clock down the railroad. These men report that Brigadier-General Clingman was mortally wounded day before yesterday. They say that in the attack on the Fifth Corps General Colquitt commanded his own, Clingman's, and Mahone's brigades which attacked our right, and two brigades of Heth's division (Fry's and Davis') attacked our left.

I understand the following to be the disposition of troops in our front from the enemy's left to right: Bushrod Johnson's division, Martin's and Hagood's brigades, of Hoke's division, and Kirkland's and MacRae's brigades, of Heth's division; Mahone's division, and Fry's and Davis' brigades, of Heth's division; Colquitt's and Clingman's, of Hoke's division. We learn of no troops having arrived from the north side of the James River, except these three brigades of Heth's division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 21, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Among about 280 prisoners just sent in from Fifth Corps I find, in addition to those already reported, prisoners from Hagood's brigade, of Hoke's division, and Ransom's brigade, of Bushrod Johnson's division. There are also prisoners from W. H. F. Lee's cavalry division, and officers captured say that General W. H. F. Lee was badly wounded in the lungs in the action this a. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Among thirty-seven prisoners just sent in from General Warren I find, in addition to those already reported in General Warren's front, a few men from Cooke's brigade, of Heth's division. Prisoners from Fifth North Carolina Cavalry confirm report that General W. H. F. Lee was severely wounded in the lungs to-day. He crossed the Appomattox River yesterday morning with Chambliss' and Barringer's brigades. Rosser's and Butler's brigade are still on north side of James River, and Wickham's and Lomax's brigades, under command of Fitz Lee, are in the Shenandoah Valley with General Early.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

P. S.—Dearing's brigade is also here in W. H. F. Lee's division.

J. McE.

AUGUST 21, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Captain FISHER:

All quiet in front. Right smart cannonading in direction of Fifth Army Corps.

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 21, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The following report has just been received and is respectfully forwarded:

PLANK ROAD STATION,
August 21—11 a. m.

A column of about 600 infantry moving to our right in rear of fort northwest from station have disappeared in woods. Enemy are shelling quite lively in our front; our batteries replying.

FULTON,
Sergeant.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
August 21, 1864—12 m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

The enemy's signal officer reports that stragglers have been passing all the morning on the Broadway road, and infers a corps or division has passed toward Petersburg. He also reports a squadron of cavalry passing toward City Point.

CHARLES L. DAVIS,
Captain and Signal Officer.

GIBBON'S HOUSE, *August 21, 1864.*

Major FISHER:

The musketry in front of this station was only a heavy picket-fire, both lines remaining in their works.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 21, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following message has just been received from the signal station at the Jordan house, and is respectfully forwarded:

The enemy's signal officer has just reported as follows: "We drove the enemy's left from the Weldon road and are still pursuing."

DAVIS,
Captain.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

AUGUST 21, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain FISHER:

Firing by enemy in front of my station between 10 and 12 a. m. An embrasure is being built in a short work of the enemy at the place of the exploded fort. It will enable the enemy to enfilade our line in front of my station.

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

AUGUST 21, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

A regiment of about 400 men moved out of town on same road, and taking same direction as those reported yesterday at 1.30 p. m. They were followed by two ambulances. I think the enemy has moved the artillery from four-gun battery to left of white house.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 21, 1864—7 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Between forty and fifty ambulances passed to our right on Weldon railroad toward Petersburg to-day, and many stragglers passing and repassing on same road. No movements visible since last report. Camps unchanged.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 21, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following rebel signal message, intercepted by the signal officer at the Jordan house:

Colonel BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Since fog cleared, as far as I can see to left of Cobb's and crossing pontoon and Broadway road, I notice a large number of stragglers passing, going toward Petersburg, which leads me to think that a division or corps must have passed during the night. Two companies of cavalry passed along the Broadway road toward Petersburg. The sharpshooters report the same.

R.,
Sergeant at 114.

(Same to A. B.)

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—10.35 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

In consequence of the bad condition of the roads at this time the commanding general directs that for the present the subsistence supplies required for the troops west of the plank road be packed to them, and that the commanders of such troops make the necessary arrangements for this purpose. Until further orders no salt meat will be issued to the troops west of the plank road. The chief commissary has been directed to provide beef on the hoof instead. Please acknowledge.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to commanding officers Fifth and Ninth Army Corps.)

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
City Point, Va., August 21, 1864.

Capt. H. V. SLOSSON,
Comdg. Company D, Fifteenth New York Vol. Engineers:

You will remain until to-morrow morning, with sixty men and your bridge where it now is, with the draw either open or closed, as may be most convenient. The balance of your men will return to this camp

to-day. In the morning you will swing your bridge, take up the abutments, and have everything ready to tow to this place in the way that was attempted last night—that is, the whole bridge laid in one raft. The stern boats will be provided with oars and oarsmen to steer. A tug will report to you at 8 a. m.

By order of Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

According to statement of deserters the troops of the enemy in their intrenchments in front of us are Johnson's division, of Beauregard's corps, one brigade of Hoke's division, and two brigades of Heth's division. The remainder are in front of Warren, namely, three brigades of Hoke's division, two brigades of Heth's division, and all of Mahone's division.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Major-General Ord.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—12 m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

With the enemy's intrenchment held with as thin a line as he now hold's it, Mott's division need only hold the front line of works thinly and the large redoubt on the plank road, so as to leave every man possible available for the left. The commanding general thinks that in the present almost impassable condition of the roads it is advisable not to take your artillery beyond the plank road.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—General Ord will send from 500 to 800 men to relieve that many of Mott's. Please give directions accordingly, and let Mott communicate to General Ord where the troops can best get into the intrenchments.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—11.20 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Gurley House:

I am instructed to say that circumstances may render it necessary to assume the offensive to-morrow, and the commanding general desires you to be prepared at an early hour of the morning.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to General Warren.)

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

No preparations will be made for the troops going into permanent camp, as the command will probably be extended to the left to-day. The command will be held in readiness to move at short notice.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 21, 1864—2 p. m.

The command is informed that General Warren has repulsed the second attack made on him to-day, capturing several colors and inflicting great loss on the enemy.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Near Weldon Railroad, August 21, 1864—5 p. m.

Excepting only the wagons for intrenching tools, no wagons whatever will be brought this side of the plank road. Subsistence, forage, ammunition, and officers' supplies must all be packed and brought up as required. Spring wagons are included in this particular.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Major HAZARD,
Chief of Artillery, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: The brigadier-general commanding desires that you place a battery of light 12s in the square redoubt on the right of the Jerusalem plank road, in addition to the battery already there (Clark's). You will please have this attended to to-night as early as possible.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIG., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

The command will move immediately in the following order: Captain Brown, Captain Burton, Captain McKnight, Lieutenant Beck, Captain Edgell, Captain Sleeper, Captain Ames, Lieutenant Roder, Captain Woerner, Captain Dow. Each battery will move out and follow the one preceding it without further orders. Captain Miller will command the column.

By command of Capt. A. J. Clark:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864. (Received 1.30 p. m.)

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Commanding Division, Second Corps:

To save time orders are sent you direct that General Ord will send from 500 to 800 men to relieve as many of your men now holding the intrenchments as practicable. An engineer officer will see you and conduct Ord's troops to that part of the trenches from which yours will be withdrawn upon being relieved by Ord's men. General Hancock is advised of this and will send you orders. Unless directed to the contrary by General Hancock, please send the part of your division taken from the trenches to the vicinity of the Strong house. Have these orders executed as promptly as possible.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 21, 1864—1.30 p. m. (Received 2.10 p. m.)

General MOTT:

Please send a staff officer to report to General Ames at once to show the latter the best way to the right of your trenches, where I wish General Ames to post all his available force (two or three regiments). They will be stretched out to cover about half your present line. Also please send at once another staff officer to report to General Carr, who has two or three regiments to post in the left half of your trenches. Let these staff officers know where to take the respective commands, and oblige,

Yours,

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 21, 1864. (Received 2.45 p. m.)

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to say that he is about to proceed with the balance of his command to the Gurley house (shown on the map). He will therefore be unable to relieve your pickets, and you will be obliged to look out for [your] own left.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
Camp in the Trenches, August 21, 1864—12 m.

[Maj. JOHN HANCOCK,
Assistant Adjutant-General:]

MAJOR: In compliance with orders from the general commanding the division, directing me to make a demonstration in front of the enemy's works, I proceeded at once to the trenches. Orders were given to the

command to strike the shelters in front where they could be seen by the enemy, the men to sling their knapsacks and take arms. After the batteries had opened on our line orders were issued and repeated with a loud voice throughout our line "to prepare to advance." Banners were unfurled and every demonstration made to jump over the breastworks by raising muskets and hats while the whole line was cheering. This had the effect to bring the enemy partly up on top of their works, apparently waiting for our advance. Opposite our center we observed a strong line of skirmishers, and behind an extensive abatis (Spanish riders) a line of battle, in strength fully equal to ours. On the right (their left) they did not appear quite so strong, owing to the continued fire kept up. The appearance on our left (their right) was about the same as in front of our center.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. McALLISTER,
Colonel, Commanding Third Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—5.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report that it is probable the estimate of prisoners taken from me reported in the Richmond papers is nearly right. General Crawford's division lost in all, killed, wounded, and missing, 2,100 men. General Ayres in the two days has about 650 missing. So many fell out on the march here that we cannot say how many were prisoners, but it must be the greater proportion of the above. General Cutler has also lost heavily. We drove the enemy back everywhere in confusion with our troops in reserve, but they had such an easy way to escape into their intrenchments that our prisoners were few, not exceeding 260. I will be able to send you a detailed report this morning, but as yet I have not got in reports from all the divisions.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—5.40 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have the honor to report that yesterday I disposed my command on the three sides of a parallelogram with a view to prevent the possibility of being turned, and the whole command is about here in the space of little over a square mile. Until a perfect knowledge of the country is gained on which you propose to establish the intrenched line, I would advise some similar disposition of the Second Corps between here and the plank road, and then let us extend to meet each other. The country is so wooded that it will take some time to select the proper line, and in doing this the mass of the troops could rest till their position was determined. These long lines in the woods expose them to be easily broken, and it is impossible for the commander to provide against it if

done while the line is being established, unless it is securely intrenched, as we go, with a heavy flank force and immediate supports to cover the line while it is intrenching.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—8.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

It seems to me that a good point to concentrate the troops of the Second Corps before establishing any regular line is a little northeast of the Aiken house. A road very direct from the large redoubt runs by it to this place which will want a little cutting out where I made the slashing around the redoubt. The old line constructed as far as the bend southwest of the Jones house would do. It would then take across to some old works (it may be badly located) and then toward Dunlop's; it would make a line about three miles long from the large redoubt to the railroad.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

We hear heavy firing in your direction. What is the condition of affairs with you?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The enemy have driven in my pickets on the north and west and opened with artillery, but his firing is from points where he cannot see.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:
(Or any officer at his headquarters.)

Heavy firing is heard in your direction. What is going on?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: The enemy showed an infantry line of battle at Flowers', but our artillery compelled it to leave. I don't think I can be whipped if dispositions will save me, for my line extends well around, with considerable reserves. If the enemy comes between me and the plank road to attack I would like to have his rear harassed if you have any little spare force to do it with. I consider the efforts this morning as demonstration to get at a knowledge of my position. The firing has ceased for a few moments past.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Major-General Parke will move at once with Ferrero's division toward your position to carry out the orders of yesterday. Major-General Hancock's troops will move at once to carry out the same orders, having arrived in this vicinity about 8 o'clock this morning. Should the enemy endeavor to penetrate between you and the plank road and attack you Hancock's troops will be at once thrown upon him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 21, 1864. (Received 10.30 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

We have just repulsed an attack of Mahone's division from the west of the railroad. Whipped it easily.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—10.50 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

We have now several hundred prisoners. They seem to belong to Mahone and Hoke, and there is among the troops a brigade commanded by General Hagood. The enemy is reported all the time moving down to my left.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—11.10 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Hancock's two divisions are moving to the Strong house, from which point they will proceed to prepare the line to the left as indicated in yesterday's instructions. They will be held ready, how-

ever, to move to you should any exigency require it. Parke is to move out at once with Ferrero's division to you. Clingman's, Hagood's, and Colquitt's brigades all belong to Hoke's division. According to a deserter's statement you have those three brigades of Hoke's, Mahone's division, and two brigades of Heth's division opposed to you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

The following dispatch from Lieutenant-General Grant is sent for your information and guidance.*

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Jones' House, August 21, 1864—2.20 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

The commanding general directs me to inform you that Hancock's two divisions are ordered to the Gurley house.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

Parke is ordered to set Ferrero's division to slashing from the Strong house west, and to concentrate Potter's division near the Aiken house.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have received your dispatch of 11.10 a. m. and the copy of the one from General Grant to General Meade of 11.20 a. m. for my information and guidance. If the enemy attacks me so as to get a crushing repulse, I will take every advantage of it. If he wishes to get me off, as he has been trying for four days to do, I think he will make a more vigorous effort yet. I am holding myself prepared for it. On my north front he falls back at once into his intrenchments, and if I move west with my whole force I must make another detour to avoid a flank attack while doing it. I lose all the advantage of my artillery as soon as I move and get the effect of his. I believe I have fought against the army opposed to me to know pretty well what to do here on the field. General Parke is now here. He ranks me.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—10.40 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

Do you know how far the railroad party have destroyed the railroad to-day?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

I have received your dispatch and will send it.

A. A. H.

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* See Grant to Meade, 11.20 a. m., p. 355.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—12 m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The railroad party have destroyed about one mile and a half south of this place—the Globe Tavern. Thanks for your attention to my private dispatch.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 205. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

1. Col. Charles P. Stone, Fourteenth U. S. Infantry, having reported at these headquarters, in compliance with orders from headquarters Army of the Potomac, is assigned to duty with Brig. Gen. R. B. Ayres, commanding Second Division, and will report accordingly.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 110. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—9.45 a. m

Wherever our skirmishers have been driven in they will be immediately pushed back again as soon as the firing ceases.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 110½. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—9 p. m.

Division commanders will to-night strengthen their positions where they can, and have their men under arms at an early hour to-morrow morning. They will push their pickets out as far as possible, the men, if necessary, creeping on their hands and knees so that they may be able to give timely warning of the approach of the enemy in case of a fog; and, in that event, if an alarm is given and the firing begins it must be stopped as soon as it appears that the enemy is not advancing. Instructions must be given in detail on these points. Let sixty rounds of ammunition be kept on the persons of the men.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General AYRES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: There are about thirty men of General Willcox's on the picket-line with your men in front of the old barn on the right of the

railroad. The major-general commanding directs you to relieve them with your own men. An officer from General Willcox will point out the place. He accompanies this.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the left of the Ninth Corps are constructing a rifle-pit in rear of my right (Lieutenant Van Reed's) battery, cutting it off and rendering it impossible to draw it back if desired.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General AYRES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that if you would rather put [up] that work yourself he will take the Ninth Corps men off of it. He directed them to construct it last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—The general intends to have a roadway made, so that Van Reed's battery can be withdrawn by the right.

F. T. L.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General AYRES:

I wish you to occupy with your troops the place where the brigade of General Hartranft [is] if you think it necessary. I shall have to entrust that part of the line to you and take him away.

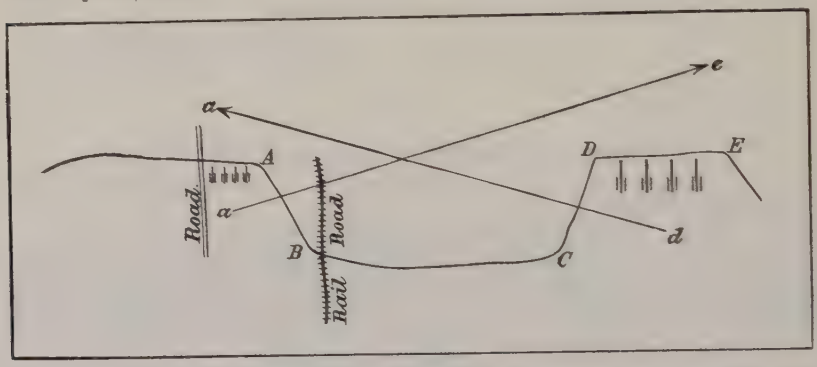
G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—9 p. m.

General AYRES:

I wish you to take command of General Cutler's division while in its present position and distribute that force so as to strengthen any part

of yours if necessary. If you will have a roadway made around where I stated, I will send over a battery. On your north front I laid out the lines myself, thus:



Between A and B and between C and D I do not think any infantry should be placed. The battery at A should have the parapet A B so fixed as to fire also in the direction *a e*; that at D E, *d a*. I don't tell you this as necessary for your information, but to say I rely upon you to see that it is carried out. I think you can use Van Reed's battery, now between B and C. It might be withdrawn by you if necessary and cover that space by the infantry taken from the flanks A B and D C. I wish you on the front. I wish you to exercise the fullest authority and discretion, and do without consulting me, if I am not present, whatever you think best. I intrust our left in the same way to General Griffin. I will look out for the center and reserves. I believe Lee's army can't get us out of here if we fight well.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
No. 46. } *August 21, 1864.*

1. Col. Charles P. Stone, Fourteenth Infantry, having been assigned to duty with this division, by virtue of order from corps headquarters of this date, is assigned to the command of the First Brigade.

By command of Brigadier-General Ayres:

GEO. L. CHOISY,
First Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
No. —. } *August 21, 1864.*

The One hundred and ninetieth and One hundred and ninety-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, heretofore composing the Third Brigade, are hereby transferred to the First Brigade, and the Third Brigade will be discontinued until further orders.

By command of Brigadier-General Crawford:

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864. (Received 8 a. m.)

Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have completed the work on Bragg's left so as to be ready for the battery which the general proposed to put in there.

Yours, respectfully,

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—10.15 a. m. (Received 10.30 a. m.)

Captain HUTCHINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

Will you please direct General Ferrero to move his division as soon as relieved by General Hancock's troops to the vicinity of the Aiken House, and then hold in readiness to move to the support of the balance of the Ninth Corps or the Second Corps.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Jones' House, August 21, 1864—2.20 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Hancock's two divisions are ordered to the Gurley house. Mott will hold as far as the Strong house, and further if he can. The commanding general desires you to put Ferrero's division to slashing and holding from the Strong house toward Warren and to concentrate the division now at that work (Potter's) about the Aiken house.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WARREN'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 21, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I did not fully understand with General Hancock that he was to extend his line to the left beyond that now held by Mott. Will you please have this understood, so that I can have Potter's division moved to the left and strengthened. He now holds a long thin line in front of the Aiken house, and White and Willcox join him in reserve. Ferrero has not yet arrived. His men in the redoubt on the plank road were to have been relieved by the Second Corps, and then he was to come on to the Aiken house.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—8 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHITE,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: By direction of the major-general commanding the army I am directed to have the work of slashing and making rifle-pits continued all night until a close connection is perfected from the right of the Fifth Corps through to the line occupied by the Second Corps. I wish you to attend to this work in your front and make a complete connection between General Willcox and General Potter. Please report progress.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 98. } *Before Petersburg, Va., August 21, 1864.*

Col. John I. Curtin, Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, is hereby assigned to the command of the First Brigade, Second Division, Ninth Army Corps, and will report without delay accordingly.

By command of Brigadier-General Potter:
SAMUEL WRIGHT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
At General Potter's, near Gurley's House, August 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division:

GENERAL: I wish you to relieve the Second Division on the line it now occupies, extending from Warren's position, the right of which is now picketed by General White's division. I wish you to strengthen this line by slashing obstructions and such defenses as may be found available. I wish you to be prepared with a portion of the troops under arms at all times to resist any advance of the enemy that may be made on your front. The Second Division will be massed in the vicinity of Aiken's house. General Potter's staff officer will show you the line. It is possible that the Second Corps, Mott's troops, may extend to the left from the vicinity of the Strong house. If so, you will close to the left, and thus strengthen your line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

General Warren holds the Weldon railroad at Blick's, Dunlop's, &c. A part of Kautz's cavalry, under command of Colonel Spear, is watching and picketing on his left, probably with one regiment, and the brigade

you sent yesterday is covering the railroad party engaged in destroying the railroad from Blick's south toward Reams' Station. The commanding general desires you to move out to the Weldon railroad with your force and co-operate with General Warren, under whose orders the destruction of the railroad was commenced. If, in your judgment, any part of Kautz's division should return to this side of the Blackwater you can send them.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that my headquarters are on the plank road below McCann's.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Six-Mile House, Weldon Railroad, August 21, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG, *Commanding Cavalry:*

The major-general commanding directs that you move your brigade to this vicinity and cover the left of the army with your division, leaving Kautz's division to cover from the plank road to the James. Colonel Spear, who is in command of the cavalry now here, is at the Perkins house, about a mile below this, on the Weldon railroad.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

The cross roads are impracticable for wagons and artillery.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—6 a. m.

Colonel STEDMAN:

You will move your command out at once along the railroad and make dispositions to cover the party at work destroying it now about a mile south from here. Colonel Spear's cavalry is out yet, and I have had no report since I saw you yesterday.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 21, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding:*

General Ord has extended so as to hold a greater front to relieve as many as possible of the Army of the Potomac to go to General Warren's support. To hold what he now does, two or three more batteries ought to be sent to him. Have you got them to spare? If so, send them. Two will probably be enough.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

AUGUST 21, 1864.

Captain NORTON:

Rebel message received at 2.20 p. m.:

O. O. and Colonel B.:

The enemy was driven from Weldon road. We are still pursuing him.

O.,
At B.

Send to Lieutenant-General Grant.

B. F. BUTLER.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 21, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

The last dispatch from General Warren was dated at 11 a. m. He then stated that the enemy had attacked from the north and west, but were, too, easily repulsed. We did not get them close enough for his fire to have full effect. He captured, however, 400 prisoners that he knows of. I hope there is a mistake in the intercepted signal.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 21, 1864—1 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

The enemy is evidently massing everything he can to drive our troops from the Weldon road. To do this he is undoubtedly leaving his intrenched lines almost to their own care. Have a reconnaissance made, and if, with the Tenth Corps, you can break through, do it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

AUGUST 21, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Birney and myself are at this moment consulting upon the movement which you suggest, and will try and do it to-morrow morning. If we do anything I must have all the batteries I have left. I have but seven in all on the line and in reserve on this side of the river. Will send the one at Spring Hill to Ord. General Hancock has twelve.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 21, 1864—3.50 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

The operator at General Warren's headquarters, this moment, in reply to a question from me says every attack of the enemy has been repulsed, and Warren's position is now stronger than ever.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

(Copy transmitted to General Birney at 4 p. m.)

AUGUST 21, 1864.

Captain NORTON:

Rebel message received 11.30 a. m.:

10.45 A. M.

O. O., Colonel B., and A. B.:

Since the smoke cleared, as near as I can see to the left of Cobb's crossing pontoon, and also along the bridge road, I noticed a large number of stragglers passing going toward Petersburg, which led me to think a division or corps had passed during the night. Two companies of cavalry passed along the military road going toward City Point. General Thomas' sharpshooters made the same report.

R.,
Sergeant at C.

K[RZYWOSZYNSKI],
Lieutenant.

AUGUST 21, 1864—10.35 p. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

I would respectfully state that in answer to your inquiry the signal officers at Crow's Nest, Water Battery, tower, and Spring Hill report that they have observed no movements or indications of movements of enemy to-day.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to announce my return with my troops to old camp during the night. I was left to protect the crossing of Generals Hancock's and Gregg's troops.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

AUGUST 21, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

It being now quite certain that the enemy have withdrawn very largely in front of our line between the James and Appomattox for the purpose of giving battle to General Warren, on the Weldon road, below Petersburg, it is thought expedient that we should make the attempt to pierce their lines in this front. For that purpose you will take, say, 4,000 of your best troops, and passing on to the plain near Port Walthall will, just before day, say 3.30 a. m., move upon the enemy's lines between the Appomattox and Bake-House Creek, and up the valley of the creek, if found practicable. From the point at the old mill-pond near the picket-line held by us, it would be well to send off, say, two regiments or a brigade of not more than 800 men, to move with vigor up the road that leads to the left, at the same time to make a vigorous attack in that direction. A column of, say, 1,000 men should at the same time make demonstrations in the nature of a feint on the right, near Ware Bottom Church, so that the enemy shall be held in check there. This

column should be kept under cover as much as possible, so as to avoid the fire of the enemy's batteries, and seek cover to all possible extent consistently with a demonstration. At the same time all our batteries should open on the center of the enemy's line. As this movement, if properly timed, should be substantially over, let the troops take nothing but their canteens filled and cartridge-boxes. So much depends on your executive energy and skill that I forbear making other details the subject of an order.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 21, 1864—3.55 p. m.

General BIRNEY:

General Grant telegraphs as follows at 3.40 p. m.:

The operator at General Warren's headquarters this moment, in reply to a question from me, says every attack of the enemy has been repulsed and Warren's position is now stronger than ever.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

GEO. A. KENSEL,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

CITY POINT, *August 21, 1864—5.30 p. m.*
(Via Butler's headquarters.)

General BIRNEY,
Tenth Army Corps:

Get everything ready as we talked for the movement we spoke of. It is approved. We are to move on Petersburg, so we all say. Will be back at once. Let the men take nothing but canteen of coffee and cartridge-box.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

AUGUST 21, 1864—7.15 p. m.

General BIRNEY:

Come over. If you could bring with you Terry and the commanders that are to lead the column it would be better.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

AUGUST 21, 1864—11.40 p. m.

General BIRNEY:

Telegram received. From what you have learned, what is your opinion as to the feasibility of the movement? You can judge better than I, having seen the parties making report.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864. (Sent 12.15 a. m. 22d.)

Major-General BUTLER,
Headquarters:

My opinion is that they have restored the strength of their line to meet the return of my corps. Their line, like ours, will almost defend itself with artillery. I have confidence in the reports of re-enforcements. I dislike to abandon the movement, but regard it as perhaps a doubtful one as to success. A surprise might take the line.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

(Forwarded by Butler to Lieutenant-General Grant at 12.35 a. m. 22d.)

AUGUST 21, 1864.

Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A small brigade of infantry and eight army wagons have moved toward our right on the road to Richmond.

CHAS. F. CROSS,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

The following disposition of troops to execute the order will be made: Brigadier-General Terry, with Howell's brigade, of his own division, one brigade of colored troops, under Brigadier-General Birney, and Curtis' brigade, of Turner's division, will make the attack. He will be ready to make the attack by 3.30 a. m. to-morrow. He will pass on to the plain near Port Walthall and move upon the enemy's lines between the Appomattox and Bake-House Creek, and up the valley of the creek, if found practicable. Brigadier-General Foster, with his three regiments, will make a demonstration in the nature of a feint on the right near Ware Bottom Church, so that the enemy shall be held in check there. He will keep his column under cover as much as possible so as to avoid artillery fire, and will do all that is possible to make a demonstration. He will move up so as to drive in the enemy's pickets, cheering and yelling, at precisely 3.30 a. m. Colonel Curtis will detach a regiment from his brigade to move up the mill-pond road on the right of Bake-House Creek. The regiment will then deploy to the left and make a vigorous attack on the enemy's works. This movement will be made simultaneously with the attack by General Terry's division on the left. The regiment should be in position to make the attack at 3.30 a. m. to-morrow.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

The troops of this command will be held in readiness to move during the night in light marching order, without knapsacks. They will take one day's rations and coffee in the canteens.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General TERRY:

The major-general commanding directs that General Foster's command be held in readiness to move and join his division, except his cavalry and two infantry regiments. The garrisons of the redoubts will be relieved and march with their regiments.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General FOSTER,
Deep Bottom:

Have all your troops, except cavalry and two regiments of infantry to garrison the works, ready to march to your division. Orders in due course will reach you.

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DEEP BOTTOM, *August 21, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Everything is now in its former position. The pontoon was replaced before daylight. This morning both pontoons below the creek are taken away. Lieutenant-Colonel Coan is about leaving at this time. The enemy tried Colonel Coan's pickets about daylight on the right in small force.

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Commanding Second Division:

The major-general commanding directs that you cause the colored troops on the line to be relieved and sent to their brigade.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Commanding Second Division:

The major-general commanding particularly desires to have Curtis' brigade go entire, and he directs that you relieve it by one of your other brigades.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Col. N. M. CURTIS,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: I am instructed by the brigadier-general commanding to direct you to picket the line the same as last night and from the same troops.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Captain, Forty-seventh New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. FOURTH REGIMENT MASSACHUSETTS CAVALRY,
In the Field, August 21, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that in obedience to orders from corps headquarters I reported for duty with my command to Brigadier-General Turner, on the evening of August 13, and was assigned to duty in the trenches under immediate command of Colonel Curtis. On the 17th of August I reported for duty with my command to Major-General Birney at corps headquarters, and was ordered to picket and patrol that portion of the line connecting the right of Brigadier-General Birney's with the left of General Gregg's picket-line. This duty was performed until August 20, at 10 p. m., when, in obedience to marching orders, I covered the rear of the retiring pickets to the pontoon bridge, reaching camp at 4 a. m. August 21. The only casualty to my command was an accidental injury to one man by gun-shot wound.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS WASHBURN,
Lieutenant-Colonel Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel WASHBURN,
Commanding Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry:

The major-general commanding directs that you report, with your command (dismounted), to Brigadier-General Turner for duty in the intrenchments.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 21, 1864—8.40 a. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

What did the firing mean this morning?

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel KENSEL:

There is very heavy firing now going on five or six miles south of this apparently, probably a severe engagement on the left. It is too far to hear musketry.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Colonel KENSEL,
Chief of Staff:

The firing this a. m. was a shelling along the whole line just as much as we have had for three mornings previous. I suppose it was intended to annoy us.

ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you open your batteries upon the enemy.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Brigadier-General Mott.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—10.35 a. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that in addition to opening your batteries upon the enemy, you make every demonstration of attack upon them.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Brigadier-General Mott.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
[*August 21, 1864*]—*11.25 a. m.*

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

All was going on well on the left. The enemy showed a line of battle in front of Warren's left, when he opened his artillery upon them. It has been renewed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—11.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have just received the following:

Capt. S. A. CARTER:

Have just discovered a movement of the rebels. They are moving in haste from the front of Colonel Fairchild's brigade to the rebel right; the movement is quite plain. Colonel Fairchild with me.

E. WRIGHT,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

This near Burnside's mine.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864. (Received 11.40 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

My ammunition in front was nearly all used up last night, and I can't keep up the firing long.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—11.40 a. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

Your dispatch received. Can you concentrate your troops at any point, leaving a very thin line in the intrenchments, and attack if the enemy thins off much more, or can you extend your line and relieve some part of Mott's troops, so that they can be sent toward the Weldon railroad? Mahone's division attacked Warren and was repulsed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864. (Received 12 m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

I will relieve a portion of my troops and send from 500 to 800 men to relieve General Mott on the left. Please send a staff officer to my headquarters to show them the way.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—11.55 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The following has been received:

Captain CARTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The rebel movement reported to you continued about fifteen minutes, when our artillery opened on them and they at once hid in a covered way.

E. WRIGHT,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Respectfully,

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—12 m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

General Mott holds the intrenchments from your left to the plank road, and your troops had probably better extend to the left. I will advise General Hancock at once, and that Mott should send some one to point out how your troops should best enter the trenches—but they are new to the intrenchments.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

General GRANT:

I have ordered portions of my men to relieve Mott's division, by General Meade's order. My parapet front line in places does not cover my men, having been washed down by rain, hence there is danger of reducing too much my trench guard, having no reserves of either infantry or artillery. I should like two or three batteries from General Butler, Parke having withdrawn three batteries, and I have none to replace them. I have no battery to prevent the enemy crossing near Fort Clifton.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 21, 1864—1 p. m.*

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

The enemy evidently intend to use nearly their entire force to drive us from the Weldon road. This will enable us either to penetrate their line or to hold ours with a small force. Either make an attempt to break through on your front, or extend so as to relieve Mott's division to go to Warren. I am inclined to think the latter to be the best policy, but leave it to your judgment.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864. (Received 3.50 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

I have asked General Grant for three batteries to replace three of General Parke's. He replies that you will let me have one and General Hancock the other two. Will the one from you arrive before night? My line now is between three and four miles long.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—8.05 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The following has just been received:

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH U. S. COLORED TROOPS,
August 21, 1864—6.30 p. m.

GENERAL: An intelligent man, whom I have had in a tree top to-day to observe the motions of the enemy, reports that three bodies of rebels moved toward the left (our left) at 5 p. m. He thinks about a regiment in each body.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. SHURTLEFF,
Lieutenant-Colonel Fifth U. S. Colored Troops.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—10 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I do not feel confident as to strength of my line if attacked vigorously, with two little reserves two miles apart and enemy only 200 yards off. Have made the best preparations I could. Shall to-morrow take the Spencer carbines from my detachment of cavalry and put these arms in the trenches.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 21, 1864—10.40 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

The commanding general thinks it best that you should not weaken your line any further. He can get along very well without calling on you still more.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., August 21, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff, Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

COLONEL: I have to report that my corps in the last ten days has been reduced, principally by sickness, from the 10th to the 19th,

inclusive, 2,103 officers and men. The sick men, when I took command, averaged only 7 per cent. It is now from 17 to 20, and increasing rapidly. The fact that these men came here from a malarious district of the South, that they had been more than two months in the trenches, and that in the last few days they have been exposed to heavy rains, which fill the pits, and to the enemy's fire, which prevents their obtaining rest, will account for this condition of the men. I have no hesitation in saying that unless the corps is relieved from its present duty and allowed rest, in the course of a month I shall not have 5,000 able-bodied men for duty out of the 10,000 now reported. I have no reserves to relieve the men from the trenches, who are scattered along a line of over three miles, besides doing picket duty for five miles on the river front.

I am, sir, very respectfully, yours, &c.,

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., August 21, 1864—10.05 a. m.

Brig. Gen. J. B. CARR,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: Get all your men under arms, including reserves. Send a staff officer to each of your brigades to let you know the condition of affairs, and whether there is any movement on the left. Be prepared to and re-enforce any threatened part of the line without waiting any further instructions. The batteries are directed to open all along the line. Please comply with inclosed telegram as near as you can.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. B. CARR,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that as soon as a staff officer reports to you from General Mott, commanding division of Second Corps, you will send all your reserves by the road the officer will designate, to relieve the left half of the line now held by General Mott, in the Ninth Corps front. If you can you will relieve and send the sharpshooters put in front this morning, and let General Ord know the whole number of troops sent.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. S. SEWARD,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

P. S.—Send the best officer you have available to command the detached force.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 21, 1864—2.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General CARR:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to direct you to send one-half of your reserve force to report to Brigadier-General Ames for such instructions as he may give them. The other half you can retain as your own reserve. General Ames has all his men in the trenches, and is, therefore, without any reserve force.

Very respectfully,

THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Maj. THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Eighteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: In compliance with your communication of this date one-half of my reserve have been sent to General Ames, commanding Second Division. They reported to General Ames at 5 o'clock this p. m.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. CARR,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Col. A. F. STEVENS,
Commanding First Brigade:

SIR: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you move the regiments of your command now at the left of the Third Brigade and connect them with the other regiments of your brigade, holding the right of the line, this evening at dusk.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. JOHNSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Col. E. M. CULLEN,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you send one-half of the force now with you (300 men under the proper officers) to report to Brigadier-General Ames, commanding Second Division. You will notify these headquarters so soon as you have complied with this order. Keep the Tenth New Hampshire Volunteers with yourself.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. JOHNSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864.

Col. S. H. ROBERTS,
Commanding Third Brigade:

SIR: The brigadier-general commanding directs me to say that the movement of your brigade toward the left of the line intended to be made last night will be carried into effect this evening.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. JOHNSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 21, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Brig. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: I am directed to relieve General Mott, who occupies the trenches to your left, as far as the plank road at least. Mass all your reserve force to the left for that purpose. If you can find General Mott's headquarters (I do not know where they are) get a staff officer from him to show you the best way to his (Mott's) line, and relieve as large a part of his division as you can. General Carr will send two regiments, about 600 men, to relieve the remainder. Report when move commences. I telegraphed for a staff officer to you. As soon as he comes from General Mott (perhaps you had better mass your reserve and wait his arrival) let me know what force you send.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, 18TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., August 21, 1864.

In pursuance of instructions from corps headquarters, brigade commanders will have their reserves kept well in camp and ready for any emergency.

By command of Brigadier-General Ames:

CHARLES A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 21, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Colonel Kleinz, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, stationed at Mount Sinai Church, reports the enemy's pickets quite troublesome last night on the road to Surry Court-House and the Powhatan stage road; one horse killed; no casualties.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE, KAUTZ'S DIVISION,
August 21, 1864.

Lieut. Col. F. T. LOCKE, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR: In accordance to your directions I have the honor to report that all was quiet on my front and flank last night. I made a reconnaissance yesterday afternoon; passed to the right of Reams' Station. A small force, about 100, are at Reams'. The enemy patrol from Reams', on a road west of the Vaughan road, all the way to Petersburg. The three regiments of cavalry have removed and are now encamped at a point three miles due west from the railroad. I shall make another reconnaissance this morning toward their camp. I routed two reserve picket stations of about thirty each yesterday.

Very respectfully,

S. P. SPEAR,
Colonel, Commanding Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY BRIGADE, KAUTZ'S DIVISION,
August 21, 1864—1 p. m.

[Lieut. Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:]

COLONEL: Your dispatch received. I am on the extreme left. No force has yet been discovered. I am reconnoitering and will send you the first indication of any movement of the enemy. I have securely picketed every point. I am now with three regiments on the Vaughan road trying to ascertain their movements. The enemy have even drawn in their outer pickets. This means something which I am trying to discover.

Very respectfully,

S. P. SPEAR,
Colonel, Commanding Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY BRIGADE,
August 21, 1864.

Col. F. T. LOCKE, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I am now at Colonel Wyatt's house, Vaughan road. The right flank of the enemy rests here. General W. H. F. Lee is in command. I had a sharp skirmish with his advance posts; drove them all in; advanced to the main body; can get no farther without heavy loss. The roads are all barricaded in different places. The enemy are bivouacked; the distance between his line and ours cannot exceed one mile and a half. I have had some men wounded and captured; some prisoners. I shall picket strongly every point.

Yours,

S. P. SPEAR,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY BRIGADE,
August 21, 1864—6 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR: Since my last dispatch I have been to Reams' Station. Destroyed two large water-tanks, pumps, store-house, &c. A force of seventy of the enemy was there; small skirmish completely routed

them. Went two miles [beyond] Reams'; destroyed telegraph wire. Crossed the country and drove all pickets. Know where one regiment of cavalry is encamped eight miles from here; will visit them to-morrow. My flank is well guarded and the enemy's right is well watched. It is still resting on Wyatt's house.

Very respectfully,

S. P. SPEAR,
Colonel, Commanding Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY,
August 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. V. KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: General Gregg directs me to say that Colonel Spear will be relieved by this division on Weldon railroad, and that you will picket from James River to plank road, connecting with the pickets of the Second Division Cavalry at a point in vicinity of Gary's Church, on plank road (Jerusalem).

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 22, 1864—10 p. m.*
(Received 2 p. m. 23d.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Everything quiet to-day. There were indications all day of the enemy collecting his strength to attempt to drive our forces from the railroad. The effort may be made to-morrow. I suspended about 2 a. m. to-day the order for an attack which had been prepared and was to have been made at daylight. Yesterday's operations cost the enemy very dearly in killed, wounded, and captured, whilst our loss was very small.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, August 22, 1864. (Received 8 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires me to say that in consequence of the reports of deserters that the enemy's line in front of Butler had been reoccupied by the original force, no attempt will be made from Butler's front.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864—8.15 a. m.

General GRANT:

Colonel Comstock's telegram received. If the Tenth Corps is brought this side of the Appomattox, I beg leave to renew my suggestion that

it relieve the Second Corps, holding to the left of the Eighteenth. This would leave some reserve for the line of the Tenth and Eighteenth Corps, and would enable the concentration of the Second Corps for further operations.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 22, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

It is my desire to hold the Weldon road, if it can be held, and to thoroughly destroy it as far south as possible. I do not expect to attack the enemy behind his intrenchments, unless he sends off a large part of his force. There is no necessity, therefore, for Warren moving from where he is unless he gains a better position by doing so. I intend to send all of the Tenth Corps that can be spared from Bermuda to take the place of the Eighteenth, and to place the latter back on high ground where it will support our whole line from the Appomattox to the plank road, and will, at the same time, be loose to go wherever it may be needed. Thinking it possible, however, that the enemy might, during to-day or to-morrow, concentrate all his forces to drive Warren away, I have directed General Butler to hold the Tenth Corps where it is, to make the attack contemplated for this morning should the enemy do so.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 22, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

Twenty-five hundred cavalry were seen moving toward Petersburg this morning. They will probably try to get to Warren's left to-day, either to drive in the working party on the railroad or to operate on his rear. Do you not think it advisable to move a division of infantry a few miles down the road to be ready for them?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Weldon Railroad, August 22, 1864—11.20 a. m.

General GRANT:

I find the enemy has left Warren's flank (left), and apparently his front between this point and the works in front of Petersburg. I also find that Warren is occupying the most favorable point in case a permanent lodgment on the railroad is determined on. There is no object, therefore, in advancing him unless it is intended to attack the enemy's works. I have accordingly directed him to remain in his present position, pushing his skirmishers forward till they feel the enemy. Parke's corps is on the right, completing the line from here to the plank road. Hancock has one division in reserve and the other I have sent to assist

in destroying the railroad and covering the working party. I understand the railroad men yesterday became alarmed and mostly deserted the work. The enemy's cavalry will undoubtedly endeavor to interfere with this work. I should be glad to know if these dispositions meet your views; also, whether you propose to re-enforce the intrenched line held by Ord and Mott by any of Butler's troops, for I feel a little uneasy about this line.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

My telegram of 11.20 has been delayed by the wire out of order. Since writing it Warren's pickets report the enemy in position intrenched, about a mile back from the position occupied yesterday. I have directed any signal dispatches for me to be sent to you, as they may indicate movements requiring your action.

G. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 22, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Two trains of cars loaded with troops moving to Petersburg have been reported this morning by the signal officer at Spring Hill.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WELDON RAILROAD, *August 22, 1864—3.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Warren's skirmishers are in contact with the enemy's about a mile from here, and the same distance from the enemy's outworks on the railroad. They do not report any very heavy force, and there is no indication at this moment of any attack, notwithstanding the reports of signal officers would seem to indicate an accumulation of troops about the lead-works, which are on the railroad, inside the outer intrenchments. A dispatch from General Ord asks for reserves of infantry and artillery in case it is anticipated he may be attacked. I have directed him to call on General Hunt for the artillery, as he has batteries in reserve; but I have no infantry to send him. Your dispatch, giving reasons for relieving the Eighteenth by the Tenth Corps, was not received by me till after sending my dispatch of 11.20, which must be my excuse for referring in that dispatch to the subject. The railroad men have done very little work, and that very indifferently. Hancock's division will soon be at work in addition.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General. Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 22, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

The object in relieving the Eighteenth Corps is, that from being kept so long in the Appomattox Bottom a great many are now sick and the number is increasing very rapidly. Having the Eighteenth Corps free will give the same reserve as having any other corps free would.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 22, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

Cars are running continually between Richmond and Petersburg, and this morning several trains have been seen to pass, heavily loaded with troops going south. Warren may be attacked this evening.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I left the Weldon railroad at 6 p. m. At that time all was quiet. General Miles, commanding division Second Corps, had progressed within one mile and a half of Reams' Station, destroying the railroad as he moved. Hearing the enemy's cavalry occupied Reams' Station, I directed General Gregg to send all his available cavalry force to assist General Miles in occupying the place. Since my return a dispatch from General Gregg announces the occupation of Reams' Station by his command. Colonel Spear, commanding brigade of Kautz's cavalry, drove the enemy's cavalry on the Vaughan and Bond roads in the direction of Petersburg, till he came to a bridge destroyed by the enemy after crossing it, at which point the pursuit ceased. Prisoners report the death yesterday of General Sanders, commanding brigade, and the wounding severely of General W. H. F. Lee, but I place no reliance on the reports of prisoners in such matters, as they are generally only camp rumors.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 22, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Among fifteen prisoners of war just sent in from Fifth Corps I find men from Ransom's brigade, of Bushrod Johnson's division; Hagood's brigade, of Hoke's division; Kirkland's brigade, of Heth's division, and Harris', Sanders', Wright's, and Finegan's brigades, of Mahone's division, and one man from Chambliss' brigade, of W. H. F. Lee's cavalry division. They all report that they were on picket last night, and that the commands to which they respectively belong moved during last

night and left them there. They were captured at daylight this morning. They had no knowledge as to where their commands went, but they all have an idea that they returned to their old positions in the trenches in front of Petersburg. They report that General Sanders was killed this morning, and they heard that General W. H. F. Lee died from wounds received yesterday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

[First indorsement.]

Captain McENTEE:

You mention the rumor of General Sanders' death this morning. Do you not mean yesterday morning?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

[Second indorsement.]

GENERAL: The prisoners say they heard that General Sanders was killed yesterday evening. I have seen them the second time.

Respectfully,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 22, 1864—12 midnight.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have just examined the three deserters from Finegan's (Florida) brigade, sent in by General Mott to-night. They know that they left the Weldon railroad on Sunday night after dark and marched to their old position in the trenches. They say that Wright's brigade was in their rear on the march, and they think they are now lying in their rear. They know nothing of other troops, and say that General Sanders was killed on Sunday last. They say they have told me all that they told General Mott.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

P. S.—These men say that they heard that Scales' brigade, of Wilcox's division, was down on Weldon railroad on Sunday, but they did not see it. They think it a North Carolina brigade, in which supposition they are correct, but I think it doubtful about the brigade being in our front.

Respectfully,

J. McENTEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

I have the honor to forward the following messages:

JORDAN HOUSE, *August 22—8.30 a. m.*

Nothing unusual this morning. A train of twenty-three heavy wagons and five ambulances passed a point on the Richmond road west of this station, moving south. No movements of troops visible yet.

JORDAN,
Sergeant.

STATION NEAR OLD FIFTH CORPS HEADQUARTERS,
August 22, 1864.

At 8 this a. m. a squad of forty of the enemy, with arms and accouterments, left fort in front of this point and moved off in direction of their right. Number of tents in enemy's works is diminished, and for a distance of 2,000 yards I counted only 120 of the enemy. No working parties seen. All quiet.

WARTS,
Lieutenant.

WALTHALL HOUSE, *August 22, 1864—9.20 a. m.*

An hour ago about two regiments of infantry, followed by seven ambulances or wagons, passed a point in the Richmond road north 40 degrees west from here, moving toward the enemy's front on our right of Fort Clifton. A half hour ago one regiment of infantry, without wagons, passed the open space in rear of Whitehead's Factory, moving toward the right. An extensive camp has appeared on the hill south of and on the outskirts of the city. Two engines have been standing at the Weldon Depot for the last hour. The enemy's rifle-pits in front of Whitehead's Factory seem almost deserted this a. m. Several of the tents have disappeared since yesterday.

DAVIS,
Captain.

PLANK ROAD STATION, *August 22, 1864—9.50 a. m.*

About 1,100 infantry appeared marching in the intrenchments to the right of the Gregory Chimneys. They came from some point or points still farther to our right. They did not leave the cover of the intrenchments until under cover of the edge of the woods, about three-fourths of a mile to the left (our left) of the Chimneys above mentioned, when they filed to the rear. These men moved in about twenty-five subdivisions or detachments, apparently to not attract any attention. In addition, small squads seemed to join them as they passed various points of the line, thus weakening it. Afterward about 200, in smaller detachments, marched along the intrenchments in the opposite direction. These men were apparently a portion of the troops in our immediate front and were detached to take the place of the others, as the lookout could see them in small squads roll up their blankets and then march toward the right (our right), from whence the first had come. Three wagons moved southward on the road along the Weldon railroad. They were seen about one mile to the south of the lead-works, thus indicating the presence of the enemy, to some extent, in General Warren's front. The line in our front is apparently a weak one at present as regards the number of the enemy in it.

B. F. FISHER,
Major, &c.

JORDAN HOUSE, *August 22, 1864—10.40 a. m.*

A column of infantry has just passed open space in rear of Whitehead's, moving in direction of Petersburg; twenty minutes in passing. A column of cavalry marching by twos, having four large flags, has just passed through Petersburg moving to our left; twenty-five minutes in passing.

CLARK,
Captain.

JORDAN HOUSE—11.15 a. m.

Another column of cavalry seen as last reported; twenty minutes in passing Infantry reported in rear of Whitehead's have passed into Petersburg.

CLARK,
Captain.

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The following dispatch received from the plank road station:

7 A. M.

Enemy planting more guns on works by the lead-works, bearing to our left down the Weldon railroad. Camps unchanged.

H. W. FULTON.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

PLANK ROAD STATION, *August 22, 1864—12.50 p. m.*

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The enemy has broken up a small camp immediately in front of this station. There seems to be a force of the enemy in line or massed immediately southward of the fort already mentioned as near and west of the Weldon railroad. It is impossible to tell the numbers, but they are visible at several points through openings in the timber. They are about one mile or more south of the lead-works. About 400 additional cavalry came down the road from the direction of Petersburg. The indications are that all the troops seen this morning are massed in the vicinity of that fort or about one mile south of the lead-works.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 22, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

I have the honor to forward the following report just received:

WALTHALL HOUSE, *August 22, 1864—9.45 a. m.*

Twenty-two wagons and six ambulances have just passed the point on the Richmond road north 40 degrees west from here, moving toward Petersburg; squads of mounted men were mixed with the train. They probably belong to the column that passed that point an hour and a quarter ago, and which probably kept the Petersburg road instead of going to the right of Fort Clifton.

DAVIS,
Captain.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD STATION, *August 22, 1864—2 p. m.*

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The enemy is fortifying along the railroad. The line of works they are throwing up are on the east side of the railroad and seemingly parallel with it and close to it. The line is between the fort

heretofore mentioned and their main line of fortifications in the vicinity of the lead-works, though not extending to either point. The cavalry mentioned in former reports, accompanied by several (about two) thousand infantry, moved down the road west of the railroad toward or beyond General Warren's extreme left. Eighteen wagons followed the column.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 22, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following report just received:

JORDAN HOUSE, *August 22, 1864—2.05 p. m.*

One large regiment of infantry, well closed up, a rear guard of about thirty men, and three wagons and two ambulances, have just passed Whitehead's, moving in direction of Petersburg.

CLARK,
Captain.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 22, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following report just received:

GIBBON'S HOUSE, *August 22, 1864—2.50 p. m.*

Rebel infantry has been moving into town from enemy's left for some time. They march very openly in squads of fifty to seventy-five, and I cannot estimate their numbers with any accuracy; should judge there might have been about 2,500 in all. When last seen they moved in a course about northwest, and were at a point west by southwest from this station.

JORDAN,
Sergeant.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD STATION, *August 22, 1864—3 p. m.*

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Wagons and ambulances are passing rapidly toward the enemy's rear, but in an irregular manner, as if coming from where there was danger. They come from the direction of the Blick house, or where General Warren's forces were yesterday, and move upon several

parallel roads west of the Weldon railroad. A battery of artillery also came to the rear. It is my opinion that the line of works being thrown up, and mentioned in last report, crosses the railroad south of the fort and extends a short distance westward. The train of passenger cars remains stationary about a half mile south of the lead-works. It may be intended to remove wounded. At other portions of the enemy's line in our front it is quiet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

WALTHALL HOUSE, *August 22, 1864—4 p. m.*

[Lieut. WILLIAM S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer:]

Four small regiments of infantry, nine wagons, and ten ambulances have just passed near Whitehead's Factory, on Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, going toward Petersburg. Enemy's signal officer reports wagons continually passing open space to left of Cobb's, and that there is a large transport just above pontoon, which frequently shifts its position so as to completely screen from his view whatever may be passing.

FEAREY,
Lieutenant.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 22, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 4 p. m. a column of cavalry, numbering about 300, came out in vicinity of lead-works and moved southward, passing east of large fort and parallel with railroad. A train of thirty-three ambulances and one of thirty-four wagons followed. A train of fifteen wagons moved to the right.

H. W. FULTON.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatches received:

JORDAN HOUSE STATION.

The enemy's camps, in rear of their line of intrenchments north-northwest from here and about one mile back of Fort Clifton, have disappeared.

T. R. CLARK.

STATION NEAR AVERY HOUSE.

Enemy are changing face of works near large white house on the crest of the hill, so as to command a portion of our line with an enfilading fire.

W. H. WARTS.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 22, 1864—7 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Since last report thirty ambulances and twenty-seven wagons moved to our left southward on line of Weldon railroad. Troops east of railroad and near fort are in same position as heretofore reported and continue to throw up intrenchments. All quiet in immediate front of station, as also on our right.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864—7.40 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Commanding Second Corps:*

General Warren reports the enemy to have retired from his front. The commanding general directs that when he moves forward, you follow him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864—12 m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps, Gurley House:

I should have informed you that the enemy have left their position west of this point, but are in front, intrenched about a mile this side of their works.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Blick House, Weldon Railroad, August 22, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Commanding Second Corps:*

The commanding general directs me to say that the division you send to destroy the railroad will obtain implements for the purpose from General Warren, to whom the commander of the division will send. It is probable that the quartermaster's party sent from City Point for the purpose of destroying the railroad have gone off altogether.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864—2.10 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Commanding Second Corps:*

The brigade of cavalry covering the working party on railroad will be withdrawn upon the arrival of the division of your corps on the road. One regiment of it will be left, subject to the orders of the commander of the division, to scout and picket for him. Please direct General Miles to report his progress in destruction of the road from time to time.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Brigadier-General MOTT, *Commanding Division, Second Corps:*

General Warren reports that the enemy have left his front. His pickets are following, and his command may move forward. The commanding general desires to have you caution your command to great vigilance, as the enemy may look out for some weak point in our lines and endeavor to carry it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 22, 1864.

Official copy furnished for the information of brigade commanders, who will use the utmost vigilance.

By command of Brigadier-General Mott:

JOHN HANCOCK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 22, 1864—9.10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Some deserters who have just come over state that Mahone has withdrawn all his forces from the front of General Warren and now occupy the works in my front. I forward the deserters to army headquarters.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General.

(Copy to Major-General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864—6 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

General Ayres has just reported that the enemy has left his front. Skirmishers are now being pushed out on the left and in front. Signal officer reports our skirmishers advancing up the railroad and enemy's skirmishers falling back without firing.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864—7.20 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

The enemy seem to have retired toward Petersburg. I am pushing my pickets out in every direction, trying to find out where they are. As soon as I can ascertain anything definite I will at once inform you. Prisoners and deserters received this morning state that their loss yesterday was heavy.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864—8 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

My infantry pickets are on the road at the Flowers house. No enemy in sight.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

Where is General Gregg supposed to be? He has not arrived yet at the Perkins house, below here. Colonel Spear is still following upon the Vaughan road.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864—8.10 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Gregg was ordered yesterday to move his brigade across to the railroad, and with his division to look after the left. It was supposed he was at the Perkins house or that vicinity. He is probably on the road from McCann's to Perkins'. Can you conveniently send to meet him?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
August 22, 1864—9.50 a. m.

General WARREN:

The major-general desires to know how far your pickets have advanced and what they find in front of them. The major-general desires them advanced and supported. General Hancock is directed to follow you upon your moving forward. The major-general is at Hancock's headquarters, and will await your answer there.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

My pickets have gone out to the Vaughan road on the west, and found no enemy. I sent the cavalry out long ago in that direction and expect a report every minute. General Ayres' pickets also advanced toward Petersburg, and I have sent to see exactly how far. The enemy can be seen on the railroad, where they have always been. If we are going to establish a line to hold, I believe the ground we are on is as good as any we can take up between us and Petersburg. If we wish

to get a battle at once out of the enemy, I think we should advance to the Danville railroad, which will undoubtedly bring the enemy out of his intrenchments, and we can have an open fight. At present we cannot take much artillery with us, and would not need much in such a movement. We can't use any in an advance directly on Petersburg. I think our plan should be to establish a good line across to the plank road, with a good sized fort at this point where we can leave our artillery and a supply of ammunition, and then take every available man and go to the Danville road. If we advance against Petersburg I venture to say that we shall fare no better than heretofore in such attempts east of the Jerusalem plank road.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864. (Received 5.40 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN:

Don't overlook the destruction of the railroad within the limits of your pickets, which probably has not been destroyed by the railroad party.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 206. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864.

1. Lieut. Col. W. A. Throop, First Regiment Michigan Volunteers, is assigned to the command of the First Brigade, First Division, in place of Col. W. S. Tilton, Twenty-second Massachusetts Volunteers, who is relieved and will proceed without delay to join his regiment at City Point.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 22, 1864.

General WARREN:

When you move forward I am ordered to follow you. Please let me know when you move.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864—8.30 a. m.

General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have received no orders to move my command from this position. I am only moving out my pickets and skirmish line.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 22, 1864. (Received 6 a. m.)

Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:

SIR: The general commanding division directs me to say that his picket-line is on the road running parallel to the railroad, and that no enemy is to be seen.

GEO. L. CHOISY,
Lieut., Aide-de-Camp, and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 22, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have just now an officer of my staff, who has been with my picket-line commanded by Colonel Winthrop. He rode with the colonel, and they saw the rebel troops along the woods beyond the corn-field. My picket-line is along this line of the corn-field. Colonel Winthrop is satisfied that the enemy are there in force. My pickets are still pushing on slowly.

Very respectfully,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 22, 1864. (Received 4 p. m.)

[Lieut. Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:]

COLONEL: Colonel Stone went out with 100 men. He sends me word that with 400 additional men the present line can be held; and, second, if it is desired that the line shall fall back, he wishes to know.

Very respectfully,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION,
August 22, 1864.

Lieutenant CHOISY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report that after much difficulty I succeeded in advancing my pickets to the white house, driving the enemy's pickets back. After holding the house for a few moments the line fell back to their original position, reporting that they saw the enemy moving to the left. My officers are all very poor and the men of the Second Brigade worse, and I have had great difficulty in getting the line up. I have again advanced the line; will report further.

Very respectfully,

F. WINTHROP,
Colonel Fifth New York Veteran Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION,
August 22, 1864.

Lieutenant CHOISY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I now hold the house and have driven the enemy's pickets a considerable distance beyond it.

F. WINTHROP,
Colonel Fifth New York Volunteers, General Officer of Pickets.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION,
August 22, 1864.

Lieutenant CHOISY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report that my pickets have advanced beyond the house, and hold a portion of the enemy's pits which were occupied previous to my advance. The enemy's pickets are still in their pits off toward my right, as the Ninth Corps has not made any advance in that direction. The pits I now hold are in the same line as that held by the enemy on my right. I have directed the line to remain in its present position until further orders.

Respectfully,

F. WINTHROP,
Colonel Fifth New York Vet. Vols., General Officer of Pickets.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION,
August 22, 1864.

Lieutenant CHOISY:

I hold the enemy's main line of works about seventy-five yards in advance of the white house. I send you in a prisoner.

F. WINTHROP,
Colonel Fifth New York Vet. Vols., General Officer of Pickets.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864.

Lieut. G. L. CHOISY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to forward to you four rebel prisoners. One Michael Cary, Company A, Twelfth Mississippi, assumes to be able to give information in regard to mining operations by the enemy in front of Petersburg, and the disposition of their forces.

Very respectfully,

E. S. BRAGG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864—7.45 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps, Gurley House:

The commanding general desires to know what progress your command made on the rifle-pits and slashing last night, and the present condition of your line.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Major-General Parke is at present on the line. It will be impossible to give you the information required in your dispatch of 7.45 until his return, which will be within an hour.

R. A. HUTCHINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
August 22, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Ferrero occupies from the Strong house the line occupied by one brigade of General Potter. He has been at work all night and reports that by evening the work will be completed. I shall then extend him to the left, relieving Potter's other brigade. The line in front of this brigade has been straightened and shortened to connect with the line of parapets and batteries in the Blick house opening. We are at work on this line now, and I hope to have it finished by evening.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

GURLEY HOUSE, *August 22, 1864—10.15 a. m.*

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

General Warren has been directed to continue pushing forward his pickets and to support them. The commanding general directs that you advance the pickets of your line, keeping pace with those of Warren. Your dispatch about your line indicates that Willcox's and White's divisions are not upon your line preparing it. If that is so, the commanding general directs that when General Warren moves forward you cover his right flank with these two divisions.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

General Ferrero reports that scouts have advanced a mile in front of his division without finding the enemy.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864—2.50 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps, near Gurley House:

The pickets of General Ayres have advanced and occupied part of a rifle-pit that was held by the enemy, who still hold it on his right. As the pickets of your corps have not advanced as far as his, they should be pushed forward as far as Ayres' pickets.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 150. } HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 22, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. The Thirty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers is hereby relieved from duty as engineer regiment of First Division. The commanding officer will report in person without delay to the commanding officer of the First Division for further orders.

By command of Maj. Gen. John G. Parke:

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. G. GRIFFIN,
Commanding Second Brigade:

GENERAL: You will continue work as rapidly as possible on the new line. Major-General Meade has just been here. He did not exactly understand the line where he ordered work suspended. He has countermanded the order and desires it (the work) pushed forward diligently.

By order of Brigadier-General Potter:

SAML. WRIGHT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Weldon Railroad, near Blick's House,
August 22, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Colonel HUMPHREY:

COLONEL: General Warren has been directed to push forward his pickets and to support them. The brigadier-general commanding directs that you advance your pickets, keeping pace with those of General Warren. Will you please send out strong supports, and be ready with the rest of your brigade to support the troops of the Fifth Corps in case a general advance is made.

I remain, colonel, your obedient servant,

L. C. BRACKETT,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864—7.40 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:
(Through General Warren's headquarters.)

General Warren reports the enemy to have retired from his front and that his pickets are moving forward, feeling. The commanding general directs that you maintain a corresponding movement on General Warren's left flank. Prisoners report W. H. F. Lee's division and Dearing's brigade on the enemy's right.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Blick House, Weldon Railroad, August 22, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The major-general commanding directs that you report at once the disposition you have made of your force to protect the party destroying the railroad and cover the left flank of the army; and that you establish your headquarters within easy communication of this point, communicating and co-operating with the commander of the infantry at this point, Major-General Warren, as well as with the commanding general. A division of infantry of the Second Corps will be sent to co-operate in the protection of the railroad party, and for the purpose of destroying it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: It was the disposition of your whole force and not the mere picket-line that was wanted. It was expected that you would have a considerable part of your force concentrated on or near the railroad, or the roads adjacent, for the operations required of you. The commanding-general thinks it better to retain Colonel Spear to increase your force for such purposes. Some part of the country or line you are endeavoring to picket is represented to be impassable, and if so, needs but very few pickets. It appears that the only point at which our cavalry is in contact with the enemy is about Colonel Wyatt's. The commanding general directs that you feel for the enemy's cavalry line, and ascertain how it is posted and connected with the enemy's infantry. General Warren will furnish you an infantry support should you need it upon your calling on him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Blick House, Weldon Railroad, August 22, 1864—1.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The commanding general has just received a dispatch from Lieutenant-General Grant, stating that 2,500 cavalry were seen moving to Petersburg from the north side of the Appomattox, which it is surmised are destined to operate against our forces on or near the Weldon railroad. Keep your command well in hand.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Gurley House, August 22, 1864—5.25 p. m.

Brig. Gen. D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

If the enemy have possession of Reams' Station the commanding general directs that you move with your cavalry and drive them from it, in co-operation with the division of infantry of the Second Corps now on the railroad. You will, of course, at once send sufficient cavalry to the station to ascertain whether it is held in any force by the enemy. The operation of destroying the railroad will be continued as long as it is practicable for a day or two.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
August 22, 1864—6 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Colonel Spear has just returned from his reconnaissance and reports having driven the enemy's cavalry, about 300 or 400, from Wyatt's across the country in the direction of Petersburg; his pursuit was stopped by a bridge which the enemy destroyed after having passed it. Colonel Spear learned from negroes that the enemy's infantry last night moved back to a road in rear of the Bohn [Vaughan?] road.

Yours, respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 22, 1864—8.40 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS:

Brig. Gen. D. McM. Gregg has advanced cavalry to Reams' Station and finds nothing there, but learns that the enemy have one brigade of cavalry at a creek three miles beyond.

W. HARPER, JR.,
Captain and Assistant Provost-Marshal, Second Cavalry Division.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 22, 1864—12.35 a. m. (Received 12.40 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Scouts report that at 5 o'clock this evening the absent troops made their appearance again in their old places in front of our lines. The officer in charge of picket-line reports it as fully manned. I sent to General Birney for his opinion of the movement and he telegraphs as follows.* Shall we move at 2 o'clock as proposed?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 22, 1864—1.30 a. m.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

Your dispatch of 12.35 received. Under the circumstances, I think you had better not move.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I send the following from signal officer. What can it mean? The night trains were very heavy. These troops did not cross Chaffin's farm this morning:

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 22, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The following dispatch has just been received and is respectfully forwarded:

"SPRING HILL SIGNAL STATION,
"*August 22, 1864—8.50 a. m.*

"Captain NORTON:

"Twenty cars heavily loaded with troops just passed the Junction toward Petersburg. Also twenty-seven wagons and 100 cavalry on turnpike toward Petersburg.

"SIMONS,
"*Lieutenant and Signal Officer.*"

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 22, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

The troops reported moving toward Petersburg must be the same that were opposed to the Second and Tenth Corps north of the James. They probably crossed the river during the night so as to escape observation.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See Birney to Butler, 21st (sent 12.15 a. m. 22d), p. 379.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 22, 1864—10.10 a. m.

General GRANT:

Signal officer reports, 6.50, six trains passed during night toward Richmond. Fifteen cars loaded with troops 6.45 a. m. toward Richmond: 2,500 cavalry toward Petersburg; twenty cars with troops toward Petersburg. Is it not relieving the field troops in the trenches with fresh troops from the north side of James?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 22, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding, &c.:*

Prisoners and deserters taken this morning report the enemy's loss very heavy yesterday. I think it most likely the troops seen going toward Richmond are wounded men going to hospitals. Those moving toward Petersburg are likely troops getting back from the north side of the river. General W. H. F. Lee is reported mortally wounded in yesterday's engagement.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 22, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding, &c.:*

I think it will be well to hold the Tenth Corps ready to make the effort that was proposed for this morning for a day or two before moving it. The enemy may be induced to move most of his troops from your front in the hope of dislodging us from the Weldon road.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 22, 1864—11.10 a. m. (Received 11.25 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I will keep the sharpest possible lookout upon the movements of the enemy in my front, and will be all ready to move at once, day or night. At 10.35 twenty-seven wagons, fourteen ambulances, and 300 cavalry passed toward Petersburg; thirteen wagons toward Richmond.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 22, 1864.

Lieut. Col. G. A. KENSEL, *Acting Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports at 12 m. that nine cars loaded with troops passed the Junction toward Petersburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

When they get all their troops on the south side we may be able to get out and have them all before us.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 22, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

I see by yesterday's Chronicle that there is a large number of negro men at New Berne who will not enlist. Newspaper articles are not entirely reliable authority to act upon, but as the chief quartermaster is much in need of about 1,000 men to relieve the same number of enlisted men with, I thought I would inquire of you if this was so, and if it is, to send them here for employment, not to be enlisted.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 22, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Telegram received in relation to the unemployed negroes at New Berne. I have reason to believe that there is truth in the report. I will send an energetic staff officer to investigate report and bring up the negroes.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

DUTCH GAP, *August 22, 1864.*

General BUTLER:

The enemy have fired shot from a Coehorn mortar. Can two be sent me?

LUDLOW,
Major.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 22, 1864—10 a. m.

Major LUDLOW,
Dutch Gap:

Have no Coehorns. Will send an officer from Graham's gun-boat who understands the Sawyer shells. You ought to be able to reach the range of a Coehorn mortar with your Sawyer canister. Try them at 10 degrees elevation; they will give you 600 yards.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

DUTCH GAP, *August 22, 1864—10.50 a. m.*

General BUTLER:

Enemy have opened another mortar on us. Got good range, but distance not exact.

LUDLOW,
Major.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 22, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel KENSEL, *Acting Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports that at 9.30 a. m. a column of cavalry, about 2,500, was seen on turnpike opposite railroad junction, going toward Petersburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 22, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieut. Col. G. A. KENSEL, *Acting Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The signal officer on Spring Hill reports that at 10.35 a. m. twenty-seven wagons, fourteen ambulances, and 300 cavalry passed the Junction on turnpike toward Petersburg; also thirteen wagons toward Richmond.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 22, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT,
First Connecticut Artillery:

The general commanding desires that you send to Dutch Gap two Coehorn mortars, with implements, and 100 rounds of ammunition per piece.

A. MORDECAI,
Captain of Ordnance.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 22, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY:

By order of the lieutenant-general, to whom I telegraphed the facts and your opinion, you will not make the movement ordered. Please send notice to Ludlow's troops not to come over. Acknowledge receipt.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding:*

I have ordered troops back to position, having received dispatch to suspend the movement.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 22, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

The signal officers report six trains of cars passed the Junction last night toward Richmond, and a train of fifteen cars loaded with troops passing in the same direction this morning at 6.45. Have a little reconnaissance made and see if there is any change of troops in your front. Have you any deserters?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 22, 1864—11.15 a. m. (Received 11.35 a. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY:

The movement ordered last night has not been abandoned, but only postponed. Meanwhile let every preparation be made for it; the troops organized so as to move quickly and reconnaissances made so that officers may be instructed in the features of the country exactly over which they are to operate. Let this be done quietly, so as not to attract observation. Large bodies of troops are moving to Petersburg to-day. Large bodies moved toward Richmond early this morning and last night.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

The scout reports that the enemy are busily engaged in erecting a line of breast-works running from point of woods toward the old Port Walthall railroad. He says it is three logs high. Their lines, he says, are three times stronger than day before yesterday. He says this new line is some fifty yards in rear of their former advance line.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864—2 a. m.

The movement of troops ordered for this morning is suspended, and the troops will resume their places as before.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864.

The movement of last night is only postponed. Commanding officers will quietly acquaint themselves to-day with the ground over which

they are to move. This should be done without attracting observation. Officers and men should remain with their commands ready for any movement, as there is a great movement of troops, on foot, of the enemy.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 103. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, August 22, 1864.

1. Divisions will resume the usual picket duty, General Terry on the right, General Turner the center, and Brigadier-General Birney the left. The details will be made heavy enough for a strong picket-line and safety of the camp. The pickets will go on promptly at 5 p. m.

2. Brigadier-General Birney will move his brigade to the left of the line of fortifications, occupying the position recently vacated by the 100-days' men. The troops of his brigade will picket the same line that General Terry did. He will send his brigade officer of the day and ascertain the line and detail required.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, August 22, 1864.

Col. J. B. Howell, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and Col. N. M. Curtis, One hundred and forty-second New York Volunteers, commanding brigades, will proceed this afternoon in person to the Port Walthall plain and carefully examine the ground with reference to an attack on the enemy's works between the Bake-House Creek and the railroad, making themselves thoroughly acquainted with the best position for drawing up their troops preparatory to an attack. The commanding officer of the One hundred and twelfth New York Volunteers will examine the Mill road with reference to a movement on the enemy's works by the road running from the mill-pond obliquely to the right.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., August 22, 1864.

Indications of unusual activity on the part of the enemy having been reported, the officers and men of each portion of this command will not be permitted to leave their regiments, but be kept in readiness for any movement that may be directed.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

General Warren reports the enemy gone from his front. His pickets are moving up the railroad; his command will probably follow. The commanding general desires you to caution your command to great vigilance, as possibly the enemy may count upon finding some weak point in our lines.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Indorsement.]

Please warn all your brigades accordingly and promptly.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Dispatch as to enemy leaving Warren's front received. They would find my line (I have but one) very thin, but all have been put on the alert. If I am expected to hold this long line against assaulting columns, reserves of artillery and infantry should be sent me without delay. I have but little confidence in my colored regiments, which are nearly depleted of officers from sickness.

ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Blick's House, Weldon Railroad, August 22, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

Your dispatch respecting the need of reserves of artillery and infantry in the event of your front being assaulted is received. The commanding general has no infantry to send you, but you can obtain some artillery by calling on General Hunt. The indications are that if an attack is made it will be directed against the position of General Warren, since a force is apparently being concentrated opposite to it. The commanding general understands that you will shortly be relieved by the Tenth Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., August 22, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I inclose report as to enemy having a battery which makes one I am directed to occupy, lately of Burnside's front, now untenable. Night before last they smashed things generally, dismounting

guns, breaking wheels, and cutting down parapet therein. Can you send an engineer officer (I have no one to send) to find a new place for these guns or have front of battery changed. The battery injured is near and to the right of the entrance of the covered way leading to Burnside's mine.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1864.

Maj. Gen. E. O. C. ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

GENERAL: Major Duane, acting chief engineer, will at once send an engineer officer to examine the battery reported in your dispatch of this morning to Major-General Humphreys as untenable. General Meade and General Humphreys have gone to General Warren's headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864—3.20 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The following has been received from Colonel Wright, commanding Tenth U. S. Colored Troops, stationed to the left of Burnside's mine:

Doctor Lampson, of the Thirty-sixth, is just from that regiment, and says the line officers reported to Lieutenant-Colonel Pratt that the rebels were seen to move, with knapsacks, along their line of works from their left toward their right (our left). Lieutenant Way, one of my aides, has just returned from the battery a little to our left, and reports that he learned there that this morning the rebels were massing troops about a mile to my left in the woods to their (the rebel) rear.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864—8.10 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy are sending up signal rockets in and to the left of town.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864.

[Brig. Gen. J. B. CARR:]

GENERAL: The report of Colonel Shurtleff, Fifth Colored, as to what a man up a tree saw, was quite important. I have rigged a lookout, and wish you would direct all your brigades to keep men up trees so as to warn us of moving of troops in our front. Put your pickets on the lookout and listen at night, and have the enemy's line of abatis care-

fully watched to note if it is taken away, or if their parapets are removed to make openings for assaulting, so that you can, without waiting for orders, assemble your little reserve and notify the nearest batteries to be ready to repel attack. I have asked for a reserve force and may possibly get it. You had better detail division officer of the day with orderlies all along your line to warn you of any changes.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864.

Copy furnished for the information of the commanding officer, Third Brigade, who will see that a vigilant lookout is kept up along the line. Lookouts will be posted in position from which they can overlook the enemy's line. All movements on the part of the enemy will be promptly reported to these headquarters.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. B. Carr:

J. JOHNSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864—7.10 p. m.

Major FISHER:

Since 10 a. m. nearly all the tents have disappeared from the line of rifle-pits on hill three miles northwest of here. I think there was about a brigade there. The enemy's signal officer reports one transport gone down the river this p. m. without troops aboard. A large camp smoke rising southeast and about a mile from city.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The corps officer of the day reports that the Thirty-sixth Regiment Colored Troops seem unsteady and unreliable, and the major-general commanding directs that you send one-half of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, who reported to you to-day, to report to the colonel of the Thirty-sixth, to be stationed among the men and restore confidence by their presence and by keeping down the enemy's fire.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Perkins' House, August 22, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieut. Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have made a reconnaissance to where the enemy's right rested last night. The right is still there; same as last night. If there are none on the Vaughan road (as reported by a staff officer of General

Warren's this morning) then the enemy have swung around or divided. The enemy's cavalry are acting very cautious, and are changing picket stations daily, which will require to be strictly watched for the security of your left flank. My front is now being relieved by two regiments of Gregg's cavalry. I regret having to leave at this time, but will turn over my orders so that there can be no mistaking them. Will report in person shortly.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. P. SPEAR,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

P. S.—The enemy have re-established their pickets also on my left, on the Reiray [Reams'?] road, on the Burt [Vaughan?] road, and cross-roads. I forgot to state that the breast-works at Reams' are about three-quarters of a mile in length, and only about fifty of a reserve were there, which I completely routed on yesterday. Have not seen General Gregg yet.

S. P. S.

CITY POINT, *August 23, 1864—6 p. m.*
(Received 24th.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Our position on the Weldon railroad now seems entirely secure. One division of infantry and the cavalry have been working south, destroying the road as they go. They met some opposition to-day from the enemy's cavalry and were consequently further re-enforced. Prisoners taken since the last repulse of the enemy repeat the report of W. H. F. Lee being mortally wounded, General Clingman losing a leg, and General Sanders killed. These reports, however, may not be reliable.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 23, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General GRANT:

I have nothing new to report this morning. Reports from deserters and observed movements of the enemy led to the belief of the probability of an attack on Mott's front last night. Every preparation that was practicable was made to meet it. I have called on General Warren for his views as to holding his present position with his own and the Ninth Corps extending to the plank road. It becomes a question on which I desire your views, how far Miles' division, Second Corps, should go down the railroad destroying it. This division is small, less than 4,000 effectives, and has a brigade of cavalry about 1,000 strong. From reports of deserters there is reason to believe the enemy sent infantry down the railroad on Sunday night, and we know he has two divisions of cavalry available for operations, besides troops now on the road that can be sent up from the south to meet Miles' advance. In my judgment, therefore, Miles ought not to go beyond support from Warren's position, say Rowanty Creek, some ten miles, which point he will probably reach to-day. He has no artillery with him and it cannot be got over

to him and he cannot carry any trains or reserve ammunition. He should, therefore, return or be re-enforced. If Warren replies he can take care of himself, and it is deemed the line from the plank road to the Appomattox is secure, Gibbon's division can be sent to Miles, and another brigade of cavalry; but this is extending very far and leaves no means of repairing any casualties should the enemy, by a successful movement, penetrate our line at any point. I should be pleased to have your instructions upon these points.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *Va., August 23, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

The Richmond papers of the 22d claim to have captured from Warren on Saturday morning 2,700 prisoners. Did Warren lose any such number? No report yet received shows it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 23, 1864—10.45 a. m.

General GRANT:

Warren's official returns show as follows: August 18: Killed, 66; wounded, 478; missing, 392. August 19: Killed, 46; wounded, 218; missing, 2,457. General Warren was in hopes many of the above missing were stragglers. It should be observed the above report is exclusive of the Ninth Corps, who also lost prisoners on the 19th. It is therefore probable the Richmond papers are not far in error.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 23, 1864—12 m.

General GRANT:

I have a dispatch from Warren advising me he has so strengthened his position he feels secure against any attack without the aid of the Second Corps. In deciding upon the movements of this corps (Second) an important consideration must be held in view—the present condition of all but the main and old roads. All others, country and cross-roads, are impassable for artillery and wagons. The rain of last evening will, I fear, keep them so for some days, or until we have fair weather—a warm sun and drying winds. The question therefore of supplying any large force at a distance from the main army or carrying supplies enters into the expediency of movements. With pack-mules we can keep up supplies if the troops are not too far removed from the trains. The trains cannot be taken along. This dispatch is intended as a continuation of the one sent this a. m. asking your views.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

FORT POWHATAN, *August 23, 1864—2.15 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

I think with you it would be imprudent to send General Miles with his small force beyond the support of the main army to destroy the railroad. If we can hold our present position until the roads get in good order, Ord can be sent with the Eighteenth Corps and cavalry to complete the work if possible as far as Hicksford, at least so far as to inconvenience the enemy in hauling around the break, and so that it would take considerable time to repair it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Widow Smith's House, August 23, 1864—6 p. m.

General GRANT:

I have examined the line from the Strong house to Warren's right. It can be held securely by two divisions of the Ninth Corps, leaving two divisions in reserve. Warren can hold his line securely with three divisions, leaving him one in reserve. Under these circumstances, as Miles has had a skirmish with the enemy's cavalry, and from prisoners learned that a division of cavalry was in his front, I have ordered Gibbon down to Reams' Station and sent Hancock down to take charge of the two divisions of infantry and the cavalry and to destroy the railroad as far as practicable.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 23, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from Forty-fourth North Carolina, Kirkland's brigade, Heth's division, who just arrived here, reports that he left his picket-line last night; that he was on picket on the Weldon railroad a short distance below the lead-works. He states that on Sunday night last his brigade marched back from Fifth Corps front to a position between the lead-works and Petersburg. He states that they are lying on the railroad near the city, and he thinks that all of Heth's division is in that vicinity.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 23, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from Finegan's (Florida) brigade, who came in this morning, states that his brigade left the Weldon railroad on Sunday night and marched back to their old position in the trenches. He

states that he straggled behind his regiment and did not catch up with it until about 10 a. m. yesterday. All the troops, he states, which were on the line of Weldon railroad in front of Fifth Corps have fallen back around Petersburg. He states that he saw no troops between their lower line along railroad and the lead-works. They had all marched inside of breast-works north of lead-works. This man states that he saw several men (stragglers) along the railroad inquiring for Scales' brigade, and they stated that the brigade had gone off in the night and left them behind.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 23, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from Eighth Alabama, Sanders' brigade, who came into our lines this afternoon, report that their brigade is now lying in its old position in the trenches on the right of the plank road. The whole of Mahone's division, they think, is in that immediate vicinity. They confirm the report of the death of General Sanders, and one of the men states that this morning he heard one of the officers of his regiment reading from Richmond paper an account of the death of A. P. Hill, the result of a wound received in his side on Sunday last. The other man thinks the truth of this report doubtful, as he thinks he would have heard of it from other sources if it were true. Neither of these men have been in service more than a month, and their information is consequently limited.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

AUGUST 23, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

TREE STATION—a. m.

All quiet. Enemy seems more numerous in front of this station than heretofore. Small party to work on fort on crest of the hill near large white house. This work is cut for two guns and nearly completed.

AVERY HOUSE STATION.

Nothing unusual observed from this point. Observed a small wagon train consisting of eight wagons passing in the rear of enemy's position, moving toward enemy's right. No movements of troops observed.

Respectfully,

WARTS,
Lieutenant.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 23, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch received from the plank-road station:

7.30 A. M.

The force at Weldon railroad occupy the same position as last evening. New works near fort on line of railroad, mentioned in yesterday's reports, look as if the enemy had worked on them all night. They extend into the woods left of fort, south of the fort on the one side and on the other disappear in woods near the brick house, and have assumed quite a formidable appearance. The brick house is about half a mile or less from the fort and toward Petersburg. No change in our immediate front, except about a dozen of tents being put up where small camp was broken up yesterday. All quiet.

FULTON.

Your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

WALTHALL HOUSE, *August 23, 1864—9.45 a. m.*

Major FISHER:

There is a large camp, as of troops in bivouac, at a point left of the Weldon railroad as seen from here and bearing south 40 degrees west. The line of it runs east and west, and there appears to be considerable activity at that point. Two engines have been at the Weldon depot and one or more at the Lynchburg depot since daylight. Steam rising over trees at Pocahontas indicates the presence of an engine at that place.

C. L. DAVIS,
Captain and Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 23, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The enemy are very busy fortifying in the vicinity of the Weldon railroad. In addition to the line of works reported as being constructed on the east side of the railroad and crossing south of the fort and extending westward, they are throwing up another line in the woods to the rear of the fort. The fort is located west of the railroad. There seems to be a slight increase in the number of the enemy in the line of intrenchments in our immediate front, but it is still comparatively a weak line as regards the number of men in them. At 9.40 a. m. a train of seventeen wagons and two ambulances passed southward west of the Weldon railroad.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

AUGUST 23, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

TREE STATION.

No change this p. m. Our pickets have compelled the enemy to cease work on two-gun fort on the hill. Enemy hauling logs to the front. All quiet.

AVERY HOUSE STATION.

Thirty-four wagons have passed over road in rear of Petersburg since 1 this p. m., moving toward enemy's right. No movements of troops seen. This road is being almost constantly used by the enemy and think it is the same road seen from Lieutenant Duff's station. All quiet.

WARTS,
Lieutenant.

AUGUST 23, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

This a. m. enemy's signal station reports three regiments on drill near Cobb's, and two regiments of cavalry going toward their front in Chesterfield. No movements of the rebels observed to-day. Weather this p. m. very smoky. The line of rebels reported this a. m. south of Petersburg remained the same till the haze prevented them from being seen.

FULLER,
Lieutenant.

JORDAN HOUSE, *August 23, 1864—4 p. m.*

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Good many stragglers seen this a. m. going toward Petersburg. Fifteen wagons loaded with hay in bales, and about same number loaded with tops of trees, having the appearance of being cut for abatis, passing in same direction. A 20-pounder Parrott gun has disappeared from Archer's battery. Wagons and ambulances have been passing both ways about the same as usual.

T. R. CLARK,
Acting Signal Officer.

JORDAN HOUSE, *August 23, 1864.*

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

Your note requesting information in regard to stragglers received. The stragglers came from direction of Richmond, passed on road in rear of Whitehead's Factory, and went in direction of Petersburg. They were infantry, and were seen from daylight to about 12 m. None this p. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. R. CLARK,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

AUGUST 23, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

The enemy is building an angle to the four-gun battery to left of white house, facing to the left. There has been considerable stir among the enemy's trains, but no general movement. Nothing else worthy of report.

JORDAN,
Sergeant.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 23, 1864—7 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

No change visible in enemy's position south of lead-works and near fort. All quiet.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 278. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, August 23, 1864.

* * * * * * *

23. Leave of absence for thirty days on surgeon's certificate of disability is hereby granted Brig. Gen. S. S. Carroll, U. S. Volunteers.

* * * * * * *

35. The Eighth U. S. Infantry, now serving in the Ninth Corps, Army of the Potomac, is hereby temporarily consolidated into four companies, A, B, C, and D. The commanding general Army of the Potomac is charged with the execution of this order. The officers and non-commissioned officers of the regiment, over and above the complement required for duty with the companies, will report in person, without delay, to Brigadier-General Cooke, superintendent of general recruiting service, at New York City, for assignment to duty on regimental recruiting service. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 78. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., August 23, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. Commissaries of subsistence will sell subsistence stores to all citizens properly authorized to be within the lines of the armies operating against Richmond, who are not entitled to draw rations, such sales to be made in compliance with paragraph 1230, Revised Army Regulations. Citizens will not be allowed to purchase a greater amount of

stores than is required for their own use, nor more than a supply for ten days at any one time. The quartermaster's department will also sell to such citizens forage in such quantities and at such rates as may be determined on by the chief quartermaster.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 23, 1864—9.50 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general desires me to say to you that the division destroying the railroad may be required to remain upon that work beyond the time for which they are now supplied, and that arrangements for their supplies must be kept in view, and the supplies maintained. The division will not return without further directions from these headquarters. It should leave some force at Reams' Station to hold that point. It should not for the present go farther than Rowanty Creek, six miles beyond Reams' Station.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 23, 1864.

Official copy respectfully furnished the commanding officer First Division for his guidance.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 23, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have received your dispatch regarding the command at Reams' Station and have directed that your orders be carried out.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Blick's House, Weldon Railroad, August 23, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

So far as any information has been obtained concerning the character of the ground between here and the enemy's intrenchments, it appears to be the best position to hold on the railroad. Unless something should occur changing the conditions now existing, this position will be held; and as we shall not advance the commanding general directs that you send a division to aid in covering the party destroying the railroad, and at the same time to destroy the railroad. The working party

appears not to have effected much. General Gregg is ordered to cover the destruction of the railroad and picket the left. The working party is about a mile south of this point, the Blick house. The commander of the division should take the direction of the destruction of the road. That party belongs to the quartermaster's department.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 23, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

General Gregg was directed to send Spear's brigade to your division on the railroad, instead of the regiment of cavalry with it this morning. General Gregg's instructions of 10 a. m. have just been modified. He is now directed to concentrate his division at Reams' Station and hold that point and picket to Warren's left and also to your division, destroying the railroad. General Miles need not therefore leave any force to hold Reams' Station. Colonel Spear's brigade will continue with Miles.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 23, 1864—12.10 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have just received your dispatch of 11.30. General Miles' division will be sent at once to comply with the order. I have sent some messengers to see what is wrong with the telegraph wire.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 23, 1864—7 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I inclose a communication received from Colonel Spear, together with General Warren's note inclosing it. I have directed General Barlow, if Colonel Spear holds the field as is stated, to have the rebel dead counted. This communication was received at 6.15 p. m.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 23, 1864—5.30 p. m.

General HANCOCK:

I telegraph you a dispatch just received from Colonel Spear, with my reply. Some prisoners he sends in say when they left they, the enemy, were falling back.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Sub-inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY BRIGADE,
In the Field, August 23, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieut. Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I reported to General Miles; he assigned me to duty. I proceeded up the Burt [Vaughan?] road, and when opposite Reams' Station, on the right, encountered Hampton's cavalry; hard fight; the enemy were ten times my number. I fought them one hour. Sent for re-enforcements; could get none. Hampton's division had just arrived to join Lee. My loss is 8 killed, 32 wounded; Captain Sargent killed. I left dead on the field 184 rebels. I hold my own; have sent to General Gregg for help. He returned me word he had nothing to do with me. I then sent to General Miles; he sent me word he could give me but 100 men. The enemy are in strong force on my left. I can do great execution and rout them if I have one or two regiments of infantry. No one seems to assist me; can I not get it from General Warren? I am very peculiarly placed. My men are exhausted, but will protect General Warren's left at all hazards. Where Generals Gregg and Miles have gone there is no enemy, but on my front is the force above stated.

I am, with high respect, your obedient servant,

S. P. SPEAR,
Colonel, Commanding Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 23, 1864—7.15 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

You did not send Warren's reply to Colonel Spear's report. I should like to see it. I desire you to call on Generals Gregg and Miles for an explanation of the charge made by Colonel Spear, that they declined to send him assistance when he asked for it.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 23, 1864—7.25 p. m. (Received 7.45 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

General Warren is temporarily absent. I send you his reply to Colonel Spear.

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS—5.25 p. m.

Colonel SPEAR,
Commanding Cavalry:

COLONEL: Major-General Warren directs me to say that you are so far off that he will be unable to send you infantry from his command. If you cannot hold your own, you will have to fall back on General Miles.

Very respectfully, &c.,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 23, 1864—7.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

General Miles has worked up to within a mile of Reams'. The heavy rain has put out part of his fires. The enemy's pickets are at the Slater house, and General Miles' pickets within 1,000 yards of them. General Gregg had ordered a regiment to drive them away from Reams'. Colonel Spear says he drove the enemy's skirmishers on the Vaughan or Bohn road two miles toward Petersburg, where a bridge had been destroyed. He states that their infantry pickets extended to this point. The cavalry retired in the direction of Petersburg. Slater's house is where the Vaughan road intersects the Reams' Station road. Colonel Spear met nothing but cavalry. The rain has made it impossible for a horseman to ride to the railroad by the route General Miles took to-day.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

General Gregg pickets a mile and a half below where the plank road crosses the Blackwater.

W. S. H.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 23, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Your dispatch of 7.15 received. I inclose you a dispatch from General Warren, which was neglected to be inclosed by him at the time, and which was received afterward.* I had previously directed General Barlow, who now commands Miles' division, and General Gregg, to send out and ascertain the number of the enemy's dead, if Colonel Spear held the field; and had directed that the road at a suitable place, where a swamp passes through it, be intrenched, in order to hold it. I will call upon General Miles and General Gregg for the explanation you desire.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 23, 1864—1.30 p. m. (Received 2 p. m.)

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that a misapprehension seems to exist as to the progress made by this division in destroying the railroad. On my arrival this morning the railroad was destroyed only to a point about one mile north of Reams' Station. I have sent a brigade to Reams' Station, which up to this time is unoccupied, and am destroying the railroad south as fast as possible. General Gregg is co-operating according to his orders, and is now with his command at Reams' Station, and will occupy the station when we get farther south. The

* See 5.25 p. m., p. 427.

instructions just received from General Meade seem to imply that one division is entirely to the south of Reams' Station. It is still to the north of that point. Our communications are now best made by the plank road.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 23, 1864—7 p. m.

Brigadier-General BARLOW,
Commanding First Division, Second Corps:

GENERAL: I inclose you a note just received from Colonel Spear together with one from General Warren.* General Gibbon's division will be at the junction of the plank road with the road to Reams' Station to-night, and will proceed to Reams' Station at daylight and hold possession there, together with your artillery. General Gregg is going to picket from General Warren's left to cover that station and around toward the plank road. He will release your cavalry. You will continue the destruction of the railroad toward Rowanty Creek, and, if possible, as far as Stony Creek. I leave here at daylight to proceed to Reams' Station to take command of all the troops there, including the cavalry. In the meantime, if you have any difficulty nearer to General Gibbon than I am, call upon him. I have instructed him to clear out the road toward Reams' Station if it is obstructed. General Gibbon has also been directed to obstruct the railroad near Reams' Station by felling trees across it, if it does not interfere with your march to the rear or front.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Please ascertain by a staff officer, if practicable, the number of rebel dead on the field where Colonel Spear had the fight this afternoon. Colonel Spear says that the field is in his possession.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General BARLOW,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires an explanation concerning the charge made by Colonel Spear in the report inclosed to you this evening, that he was unable to obtain support. The charge was made directly against General Miles, but as it is supposed you were in command of the division, the general directs that you either submit a report of all the circumstances yourself or call on General Miles for an explanation, as the circumstances may warrant.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

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* See pp. 426, 427.

REAMS' STATION, *August 23, 1864—8.08 p. m.*

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that this division has destroyed the railroad to Reams' Station. I have the division to-night in the rifle-pits on the Dinwiddie Court-House road, about one mile and a half from the railroad to the west. There has been skirmishing nearly all day between the brigade of Colonel Spear's cavalry (assigned to my command), some of my infantry, and the enemy. Hampton Legion is reported to be in Colonel Spear's front farther to the south and left, one mile and a half from the railroad, just about west of Reams' Station. General Gregg's division has been quite heavily engaged this afternoon. The firing has been quite heavy. The cavalry have stood their ground and repulsed the enemy up to this time, though firing has just now ceased. It breaks out now and then afresh. General Gregg has just informed me that his whole division has been engaged. He thinks the position a desirable one to hold and is afraid that from lack of ammunition he may have to withdraw his division to-night. He has intimated a desire to me to send a force to hold the position if he withdraws, but as my object is to destroy the railroad, I do not see the propriety of moving off to hold a position one mile or more from the railroad, which can be turned and which has no importance as an assistant to the object for which I am sent here. In the morning, if things are quiet, I shall continue destroying the railroad south. I have sent to General Gibbon for a battery, and if I am unable to obtain it there, shall send to corps headquarters for it to-night probably.

Respectfully,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—Infantry has occasionally been reported advancing on us, but I do not credit the report.

F. C. B.

(Copy to General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
[*August 23, 1864*]—*10.30 p. m.*

General BARLOW:

The major-general commanding instructs me to acknowledge the receipt of your note of 8.08 p. m., and to say that your view of the object for which you are at work is correct; but that if the enemy's resistance is so great as to prevent operations upon the railroad you will of course assist General Gregg's cavalry until General Gibbon gets up either at your own place or at his, if safe in connection with your operations at Reams' Station, for it is not supposed that the railroad can be destroyed before the enemy are driven off. General Gibbon has both your batteries, which you can call on at any moment. As General Gregg is so heavily engaged it may modify somewhat the order concerning Colonel Spear until such time as the enemy's resistance is removed. You had better send back for ammunition if you are likely to need more.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 23, 1864—7.20 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Officers in my front line report the enemy have taken down tents in the works and on the picket-line, and that something more than usual seems to be going on. It may be they are to be relieved by other troops. I have given orders for increased vigilance, and will report if anything transpires that will be of service to the major-general commanding.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 23, 1864.

Col. R. MCALLISTER,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: In case of an attack on the First Brigade, you will be prepared to move with your whole force to General De Trobriand's support.

By command of Brigadier-General Mott:

JOHN HANCOCK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 23, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

I have all my command at work straightening out the lines, putting in flanking batteries, slashing, and constructing abatis. I have no doubt I can get along now under any attack without the assistance of the Second Corps, so that that force can be used anywhere else. I am also completing the destruction of the railroad toward Petersburg. All is quiet here.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 23, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Can you not, now that the line from the Strong house is completed, hold your position securely with only the Ninth Corps by making this line as strong as possible with slashings, abatis, &c.? It could be held with the colored division and one of white troops, having two divisions of white troops available as reserves. Also strengthening the Fifth Corps line with abatis, &c., would preserve portions of it. Deserters last night say Mahone returned night before last to the trenches near the plank road. I think the enemy did abandon offensive movements, but he may resume them. It is important to destroy as much as pos-

sible of the railroad, and I desire to send the other division of the Second Corps to assist in this work, as the enemy may send cavalry and infantry around your position to obstruct and defeat this work. Let me have your views as soon as possible.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 23, 1864—10 a. m.

General WARREN:

The commanding general desires me to say that you must look out for your right flank in advancing. General Parke will be directed to advance the pickets of his line with yours. You will, of course, direct Colonel Spear to advance his cavalry pickets and supports on your left, if General Gregg has not come up and taken command of the cavalry. His instructions require him to advance correspondingly with you. Have him advised of whatever may be necessary for him to know from your command to enable him to carry out his orders. Have an understanding with Parke, who is now on his line.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 23, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

I am instructed to inform you that General Gibbon's division will be moved to Reams' Station to-night to support Barlow's in the operation of destroying the railroad as far as Rowanty Creek. General Gregg, who was directed to concentrate his division of cavalry at Reams' to-day and picket to your left and in front of Barlow's division, will receive his instructions from General Hancock. He will keep you advised of any movement of the enemy.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 23, 1864—6.15 p. m. (Received 7 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Your dispatch inclosing Colonel Spear's received. Your reply to Colonel Spear did not accompany. Colonel Spear was under the orders of the commanding officer First Division, engaged in destroying the railroad. I heard a half hour ago that General Miles had sent two companies to Colonel Spear, and that he had a skirmish with Hampton Legion. General Gibbon's division will camp to-night on the plank road, where the Reams' Station road intersects, and will move to Reams' at daylight. I do not know Colonel Spear, but am glad he killed so many rebels, and hope he may get off their wounded, which

must be in his hands. Gregg's cavalry is under my orders, and I shall be at Reams' at an early hour to-morrow. I shall have Gregg cover your left around as far as Reams', holding particularly the road coming in from Petersburg two miles to your left, which I have heard called the Bohn [Vaughan] road. I suppose this is the road Colonel Spear calls the Burt road.

Respectfully, yours,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 23, 1864. (Received 7.45 p. m.)

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I am notified from my vedette on the top of the house in the corn-field that the enemy's camp fires are to be seen about one mile and a half in the direction of the road; also camp to the (our) left of the road, on the prolongation of the line of the first above mentioned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 23, 1864—8 p. m.

[Lieut. Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:]

COLONEL: The railroad has been destroyed to a point opposite the white house beyond our picket-line about 250 yards. The ties have been burned and the rails bent up to the picket-line. Beyond that point the road has been turned over. The enemy's cavalry appeared at the cap of the woods whilst we were at work near the house. They were fired upon and retired. As before reported the enemy's works beyond the corn field on the right are occupied by his forces. His pickets come to the cap of the woods in which our pickets now are. The ground was thoroughly searched, and all arms, &c., brought away. The men in camp near that part of the road previously destroyed are using the rails for various purposes in their camps. The ties still remain.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 23, 1864.

Lieut. Col. FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that eleven rebel dead were buried by the men on the picket-line, on the night of the 21st instant, which were not included in my report. This will make up the number buried in front of the division seventy-six.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWD. S. BRAGG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 23, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps, Gurley House:

The commanding general desires to know the condition of your lines from the Strong house to Warren's right, whether the slashing is sufficiently extended to the front to render it impenetrable to any body of men. The line thus completed might be held thinly, with reserves at intervals, free communication between which and all parts of the line should be opened. All the remaining available force of your command should be concentrated on the left for co-operation with the Fifth Corps. The commanding general desires to know what part of your command will be required to hold your line in this manner, and what disposition you have made or are making in view of it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 23, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

Yours of 10 a. m. received. I have now on the line from Strong's house to Warren's right three divisions—Ferrero's, Potter's, and White's. The slashing, abatis, and parapet are not entirely completed, but nearly so. The heavy rain of last evening interfered seriously with our work. Willcox is now in reserve and I hope soon to withdraw White. I will have a detailed report of the condition in front of Ferrero, and if, as I think, it is very strong I certainly can withdraw White. I propose erecting epaulements for guns, one in the front of the line that Griffin's brigade was at work on yesterday evening, and another in front of Ferrero, opposite an open space.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 9TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 99. } *Near Weldon Railroad, Va., August 23, 1864.*

I. The Forty-eighth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers is hereby restored to the First Brigade of this division, and the commanding officer will report accordingly.

II. The Second New York Mounted Rifles is hereby transferred from the First to the Second Brigade of the division, and the commanding officer will report accordingly.

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By command of Brigadier-General Potter:

SAMUEL WRIGHT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding the army has visited a portion of your line and expresses the opinion that the men were not

in condition to meet any sudden advance of the enemy; that most of the men were without their accouterments. At least half of the men of the different regiments should be on duty all the time and ready to receive an attack, and pickets and vedettes should be posted sufficiently far out to warn the whole command. The regimental commanders do not fully realize the importance of their trust, and they should be instructed. I think it would be well that your inspector and those of the brigades should visit the lines frequently and see that these suggestions are carried out. This is not written with any desire to find fault, but suggested as a matter of instruction and precaution.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
August 23, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

General Miles' division is moving to Reams' Station with one regiment of cavalry. Is it required that more cavalry shall operate with him, or shall the cavalry be kept concentrated on the left of the Second Corps in the interval between it and General Miles' division? I have one brigade a mile north of Reams' Station, where the road to Dinwiddie Court-House strikes off. A portion of the cavalry is out of forage and it is impracticable to supply it here.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 23, 1864—9.40 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:
(Through Headquarters Fifth Corps.)

Your dispatch of 8.30 a. m. is received. The change of circumstances since the order of yesterday renders it desirable that a brigade of cavalry shall accompany the division destroying the railroad. You will please give directions accordingly. The remainder of your cavalry in that quarter should be concentrated on the left, covering that flank, and held ready to operate as circumstances may require. The animals of your supply train must be used to bring up forage.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 23, 1864—9.55 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:
(Through Headquarters Fifth Corps.)

The commanding general suggests that you send Colonel Spear's brigade with the division destroying the railroad.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 23, 1864—11 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

Upon further consideration the commanding general directs that you concentrate your cavalry at Reams' Station, and hold that point, picketing from there to Warren's left, and also from Reams' Station to the infantry division destroying the railroad. That division will not leave any part of its force at Reams' Station, and Spear's brigade will remain with the division. Until further ordered it will not go beyond Rowanty Creek. Hold in view the contingency of additional infantry being joined to Miles' command, and, in conjunction with your division of cavalry, moving beyond Rowanty Creek to destroy the railroad still farther south.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Widow Smith's House, August 23, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

I am instructed to inform you that Major-General Hancock will move Gibbon's division to Reams' Station to-night and assume command of the operations upon the Weldon railroad. You will receive your orders from him, carrying out the instructions already given you unless otherwise ordered.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
August 23, 1864—9.30 p. m. (Received 11.45 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I became engaged with the enemy's cavalry this p. m. at 4.30 on the road from Reams' Station to Dinwiddie Court-House and about one mile and a half from Reams'. The enemy displayed a large force dismounted, certainly more than a division. The fight lasted until nearly 9 o'clock. The enemy displayed his force in open country and was repulsed in every attack made upon me. The enemy retired from my front at about 9 o'clock. The enemy were principally armed with muskets, but I do not think there were any infantry present. The action was severe and we hold our position. My loss in killed and wounded will not exceed 75.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 23, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

You may now send the Tenth Corps, or as much of it as can be spared from Bermuda Hundred, to relieve as far as possible the Eighteenth

Corps. When the Eighteenth Corps is relieved let them go into camp on the high ground in rear of their present position. So long as we hold the Weldon road it is prudent for us to keep all the force we can south of the Appomattox.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 23, 1864—12.35 p. m. (Received 1 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Telegram received. I will immediately proceed to relieve the Eigthteenth, division by division, and encamp that corps as a reserve, so that fewer men can hold the trenches than if they were not so encamped.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *August 23, 1864.*

Lieutenant DAVENPORT,
General Butler's Staff:

Prisoners from Hoke, Johnson, Heth, and Mahone's divisions yesterday, and deserters this morning from Finegan's brigade, agree that on Sunday night the troops in front of General Warren fell back to their old positions in the trenches. They admit that everything they dared spare was taken from the lines to drive us off the Weldon railroad. They admit the completeness of their repulse, and there are evidences that their loss must have been very considerable. General Sanders was killed on Sunday. General W. H. F. Lee shot through the lungs; since reported dead. General Clingman lost a leg, and reported mortally wounded. Have you anything on the foregoing points, or to show the enemy's position yesterday and to-day along your entire line?

SHARPE,
Colonel.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
In the Field, August 23, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Deserters report all of Field's division, save Benning's brigade, on the north side of the James. They think that brigade has gone to Petersburg. Pickett is in our front entire. There appears some reason for believing that all of Wilcox's division has gone to Petersburg, although about one or two brigades there is some conflict of statements.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp, and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 96. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C.,
Fortress Monroe, Va., August 23, 1864.

The following is promulgated for the information of this command:

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,
In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened: That the grateful thanks of the State of New Hampshire are hereby presented to Brig. Gen. Gilman Marston for the patriotic devotion and conspicuous gallantry by which he has won for himself imperishable fame, and reflected honor upon the State of his nativity.

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be directed to forward a copy of these resolutions to Brigadier-General Marston, and a like copy to the commanding officer of each regiment of New Hampshire volunteers in the field, to be read at the head of their respective commands.

WILLIAM E. CHANDLER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
CHARLES H. BELL,
President of the Senate.
JOSEPH A. GILMORE,
Governor.

By command of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 23, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY:

Will you ride over with me to meet General Ord and consult with him about relieving the Eighteenth Corps with a portion of the Tenth? We will leave my headquarters at 3.30 p. m.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 23, 1864.

Maj. Gen. D. B. BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I transmit herewith rebel colors taken by the forces under your command the 16th instant, that the same may be forwarded to the headquarters of the Armies of the United States through the department commander. I have also requested Lieutenant-Colonel Dent, aide-de-camp, to turn over to you the three colors captured by your command on that date, and delivered to him by me the same day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 104. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, August 23, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. Pursuant to instructions from department headquarters, all detachments of the Third Pennsylvania Artillery now doing duty on General Turner's line are hereby relieved, and will report to-day to Brig. Gen. C. K. Graham, commanding Naval Brigade.

* * * * * * *

8. Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster, commanding Third Brigade, First Division, is hereby temporarily assigned to the command of the Second Division during the absence of Brigadier-General Turner. He will turn over his brigade to the next senior officer.

By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 23, 1864—12.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

No lights reported in my front. Signal rockets seen early in the evening, but not reported since. Deserters just in report no change where they have been since yesterday morning.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 23, 1864—5 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The following is just received:

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 23, 1864.

Maj. THEO. READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Eighteenth Corps:

I have the honor to report that the officer commanding the pickets reports that a large body of the enemy are moving toward the left of the line.

Very respectfully,

J. B. CARR,
Brigadier-General.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 23, 1864—6.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have my little reserves under arms since daylight, and three batteries harnessed in my rear. Shall I let them return to camp?

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 23, 1864.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

Yes; let them return to camp.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 23, 1864—12.40 o'clock.

Will General Ord meet General Birney and myself at his headquarters at 5 p. m.? We will endeavor to be punctual.

B. F. BUTLER.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 23, 1864.

General BUTLER:

I will be at General Birney's headquarters at 5 o'clock, as you request.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 23, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Butler sent for me to meet him at General Birney's at 5 p. m., and I am about leaving. General Carr will be notified if anything occurs.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 23, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. B. CARR,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: General Mott thinks that some move is going on in his front. As it is possible that the enemy are massing for an attack upon the trenches in that quarter (Mott is next to our left) you will have your reserves under arms at daylight this morning. Notify your division to be on the alert. Send staff officers along the different portions of your line to keep you informed of any move of the enemy, and prepare by every means to repel an attack.

By order of Major-General Ord:

S. S. SEWARD,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 23, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. B. CARR,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you withdraw one-fourth of the men in trenches to give them rest. This in addition to those already out, who will relieve them in trenches as far as possible; the whole force to be stretched out so as to make the line continuous and

uniform. The execution of this order is discretionary, depending upon the movements of the enemy, if any, since the last report that they were moving toward their right.

I have the honor to be, general, with respect, your obedient servant,

S. S. SEWARD,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 23, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. B. CARR:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to say that you can allow your reserves to go into camp, keeping them ready for any call.

Very respectfully,

THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

OFFICE OF ASSISTANT PROVOST-MARSHAL,
Onancock, Va., August 23, 1864.

Maj. FRANK J. WHITE,
Provost-Marshal, Eastville, Va.:

MAJOR: Reliable information has been received by a refugee just from Northumberland County, Va., that five small-class vessels are now fitted out, with about 300 men, with avowed purpose of making a raid on Tangier and Smith's Islands or other points on this shore. I would ask that Lieutenant Throckmorton, with his sloop, be sent back at once to cruise in this sound, to report to me that I may increase his force.

Respectfully,

J. W. STRONG,
Lieutenant and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 24, 1864—10.30 p. m.*
(Received 25th.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Yesterday evening the enemy engaged our cavalry which was protecting the party destroying railroad near Reams' Station. General Gregg was about one mile and a half west from the station and maintained his position, the fight lasting from 4.30 p. m. till 9 p. m. He reports his loss at seventy-five. Earlier in the afternoon Colonel Spear, commanding brigade of Kautz's cavalry, had a sharp engagement with the enemy's cavalry on the Vaughan road, near Reams' Station, and, notwithstanding largely superior forces against him, maintained his ground, inflicting heavy loss on the enemy. He reports over 180 of the enemy's dead left upon the field. The road is now thoroughly destroyed to Reams' Station; the force on the road was largely re-enforced last night, and will push on the work. I send to-day a Richmond paper of the 23d, directed to the Secretary of War. You will see from that that

great despondency was caused by the last affair on the Weldon road. In Richmond they have reports of five generals being killed in that action, but the death of but two of them (Sanders and Lamar) is positively confirmed.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Late last night I received a dispatch from General Gregg reporting that he had been engaged with his whole cavalry force with the enemy's cavalry, about one mile and a half west of Reams' Station, on the Dinwiddie Court-House road. General Gregg maintained his ground, the fight lasting from 4.30 p. m. till 9 p. m., with reported casualties about 75. Earlier in the afternoon Colonel Spear, commanding brigade, Kautz's division, had a sharp engagement with the enemy's cavalry on the Bond [Vaughan?] road, also in the vicinity of Reams' Station, on which occasion, notwithstanding the largely superior force of the enemy, Colonel Spear held his ground, inflicting heavy loss, he reporting over 180 of the enemy's dead on the field. The infantry division of the Second Corps had reached Reams' Station, thoroughly destroying the railroad up to that point. It will be joined early this morning by the Second Division, when General Hancock will take charge of the whole command, infantry and cavalry, and push the work of destruction as far as, in his judgment, it is practicable and expedient to go. On the rest of the lines under my charge all was quiet. Major-General Ord reports the desertion to the enemy of a man who was believed to have been collecting information.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 24, 1864—10.50 a. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Richmond papers of yesterday show great despondency over the affair on the Weldon road, and report five generals killed, but only know positively of two of them, Sanders and Lamar, being actually dead. They seem to be unable to learn anything official of the affair, but have to depend entirely upon citizens going from Petersburg to Richmond for information. They say, however, we have not seen the end of that affair yet.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Deserters and prisoners have reported the wounding of the following-named Confederate generals in Warren's affair: W. H. F. Lee, Clingman, Sanders, and Harris. If to these is added Lamar, reported dead

in the Richmond papers, it would just make five. There is no doubt the enemy suffered severely in his attacks on the 21st. A deserter told me his brigade (Kirkland's) had lost 300 men.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Following telegram forwarded for your information:

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 24, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

The following additional report has just been received from Colonel Roberts:

"The troops reported as having stacked arms in line opposite my brigade front have withdrawn their right somewhat to seek shelter in the adjoining woods from the shells thrown by our batteries. There are two stand of colors visible along the stacks and the men are building fires, as if preparing their meal."

From the above it does not appear probable that the enemy are massing in my front with a view to attack.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 24, 1864—1.30 p. m.*

General HUMPHREYS:

A division of the Tenth Corps was yesterday ordered to Ord's support. General Grant has telegraphed to inquire if it is on the road and to hurry it up. Tell Mott to be vigilant and have any reserve he may have ready to co-operate with Ord. In case of an attack notify Ord.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 24, 1864—noon.*
(Received 6.10 a. m. 25th.)

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

Cavalry horses are needed to mount dismounted men. I will inform you shortly how many, as soon as Generals Gregg and Kautz can be heard from. I had asked for 500, part of which had been received. Please cause more to be sent at once, if possible. Both these generals are doing successful fighting on the Weldon road, and if kept well supplied now with horses may be able soon to strike the Danville road.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch received from the plank road station:

The enemy at the Weldon railroad occupy the same position they did yesterday and the day before. They continue to work upon their intrenchments at that point. A party is also at work on the fort or large redoubt in that vicinity. All quiet at other points in the enemy's lines visible from this station.

H. W. FULTON.

The forces seen south of the lead-works, according to report received yesterday from the officer at the Walthall house, are the same referred to above.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 24, 1864—11 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 9.40 a column of cavalry numbering about 500 came out of woods north of large fort on Weldon railroad, passed southward on the east side of fort and took a southwesterly direction, disappearing in woods. Enemy working on a new line of works connecting with the main line works in the vicinity of the lead-works and extending southward on the east side of railroad, apparently to connect with new works mentioned in former reports.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 24, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following rebel signal message intercepted by the officer at the Jordan house:

IMPORTANT.]

Colonel BRENT:

Colonel Jordan reports the enemy in heavy force on our right in his front, near Swift Creek. From our point of observation we have just seen four regiments of infantry pass open space to our left of Cobb's going to their front in Chesterfield, Bermuda Hundred road. Gun-boat a little above Point of Rocks. Gun-boat and steamer just gone down the river.

B.,
Sergeant at C.

(Same to Colonel Guyon [Gwynn] and A. B.)

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—4.25 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch received from the plank road station:

At 12 m. 700 infantry, with guns (muskets, I suppose) and knapsacks, appeared from the woods in front of our line, moving in direction of Weldon railroad, and disappeared in woods near large fort west of railroad. A fatigue party of 300 men, with picks and shovels, came out from vicinity of lead-works at 11.30 a. m., moved southward on railroad, and joined the working party in the woods on the right of the fort near the railroad. At 2.30 p. m. a column of infantry, numbering between 3,000 and 4,000 men, appeared from the woods, in the vicinity of the fort, along the Weldon railroad and moved southward on line of Weldon railroad. A battery of four pieces headed the column. At the same time another column of infantry, numbering about 3,000, came to the east side of the fort, and after remaining a half hour returned in the same direction (westward) from which they came. About forty wagons and twenty-five ambulances moved westward on the same road in several trains.

FULTON.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

AUGUST 24, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

During the last hour I have observed in an open space southwest from me, and about half a mile from lead-works in Petersburg, four regiments of infantry moving from and out of Petersburg and in direction of their right. Soon after saw one regiment in same open space moving from their right and into Petersburg.

Respectfully, yours, &c.,

F. FULLER,
Lieutenant and Acting Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—6.22 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch just received from plank road station:

5.30 P. M.

A column of infantry, consisting of four regiments, moved toward Petersburg on Weldon railroad and disappeared from our view near the lead-works. A column of infantry, extending a mile and a quarter in length, four files deep and well closed up, came from the direction of Petersburg on road west of Weldon railroad, passed on the east side of the fort—the fort about a mile south of the lead-works—and filed westward, disappearing in woods. Fifteen minutes afterward another column, numbering about 2,000, came [over] the same road from Petersburg and followed road running southward on line of Weldon railroad. Sixty-six wagons and seventeen ambulances preceded the first column, going westward.

FULTON.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

AUGUST 24, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

The enemy have mounted one gun in the new angle of four-gun fort reported last night. Everything unusually quiet in enemy's lines all day. No stir of account among trains.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I learn from a report received from the Walthall house station that the four regiments reported by the plank road station as going toward Petersburg, after passing the lead-works, moved out toward their lines south or southeast from the city; one regiment into the city from their right.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

SIGNAL STATION,
Near W. P. Davis' House, August 24, 1864—7 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:

I can see the lead-works from the station that I established. The enemy are engaged upon a line of works almost south of lead-works, about 600 or 700 yards therefrom, and running from thence east across the railroad. They have a large party employed upon it.

GEO. J. CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch received from the plank road station:

At 6 p. m. a heavy column of infantry, three-quarters of a mile in length, appeared in vicinity of lead-works, coming from direction of Petersburg on road west of Weldon railroad, passed east of large fort, and continued southward on line of Weldon railroad. Twelve ambulances, ten wagons, and two carriages followed the column. The force working on new line of works along the railroad is not more than one-third as large as this morning. Two batteries of artillery accompanied the column.

H. W. FULTON.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 279. } *Washington, August 24, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

22. Second Lieut. J. A. Kress, Ordnance Department, is hereby relieved from duty at Fort Monroe Arsenal, and will report in person, without delay, to Major-General Butler, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina, to relieve First Lieut. A. Mordecai, Ordnance Department.

23. Capt. J. M. Linnard, assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Volunteers, is assigned to duty on the staff of Brig. Gen. Regis de Trobriand, U. S. Volunteers, commanding First Brigade, Third Division, Second Corps, and will immediately report in person to General De Trobriand for orders.

24. Col. P. P. Pitkin, Quartermaster's Department, recently appointed chief quartermaster of the depot at City Point, Va., will at once enter upon the duties of his office, and report by letter to the Quartermaster-General U. S. Army, also to Brigadier-General Ingalls, chief quartermaster of the armies operating before Richmond.

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26. Batteries C and E, Second U. S. Artillery, are hereby temporarily consolidated. Brig. Gen. A. P. Howe, inspector of artillery, Washington, D. C., is charged with the execution of this order.

* * * * * * *

28. Col. R. C. Webster, Quartermaster's Department, is hereby relieved from duty at New Berne, N. C., and will report in person without delay to the commanding general Department of Virginia and North Carolina, to relieve Col. Herman Biggs in his duties as chief quartermaster of that department. Colonel Biggs will turn over to Colonel Webster all public property and funds now in his possession, and give him all instructions pertaining to the Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

29. On being relieved from his duties in the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Col. Herman Biggs, Quartermaster's Department, will report in person without delay to the Quartermaster-General U. S. Army, to enter upon his duties as inspector.

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By order of Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 228. } *August 24, 1864.*

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2. Leave of absence is granted to the following-named officer: Brig. Gen. Francis C. Barlow, First Division, Second Army Corps, for twenty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—12.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch of 11.40 p. m. is received. The commanding general desires me to say that the instructions to General Barlow are approved.* The enemy must be disposed of before the road can be destroyed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864—10.30 a. m. (Received 2.30 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

General Gibbon is occupying the intrenchments here and General Miles pushing on with the destruction of the railroad. His left is about one mile and a quarter beyond the station. The enemy show no force, retiring as we advance. Their cavalry, which was here in heavy force yesterday, all reported to have retired about an hour since. They held, and still hold, the fork of the Dinwiddie and Reams' Station road and stage road. Their vedettes are still opposite ours on this road. The cavalry picket from here over to Gary's Church on the plank road.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Grant.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864—8 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The road is destroyed for about three miles and a half beyond Reams'. Rowanty is still two miles or so beyond. General Miles' division is behind the intrenchments here to-night. General Gibbon's division will continue the work to-morrow. The enemy's cavalry have been very quiet to-day. General Gregg tells me that they are at the fork of the roads, as described in dispatch of this a. m. My men are much fatigued. General Miles reports his men as tired out. They have not recovered from the fatigue of their late marches. General Gibbon will be separated some three or four miles from here to-morrow. He can, however, in case of need, fall back on the plank road, if the enemy should appear in force on some of the roads between him and Reams'. A negro, who came in to-day, says they are expecting us at Dinwiddie Court-House, and their cavalry appear to be watching the roads in that direction principally.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Warren.)

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*See Walker to Barlow, 23d, 10.30 p. m., p. 430.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps, Reams' Station:

Signal officers report large bodies of infantry passing south from their intrenchments by the Halifax and Vaughan roads. They are probably destined to operate against General Warren or yourself—most probably against your operations. The commanding general cautions you to look out for them.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Copy to General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864—11 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Your dispatch is received. The signal officer does not say about how many men he observed, nor the time. If the enemy have sent any considerable force to operate against me, I do not care about separating my force so far. Rowanty is now reported by citizens to be eight miles from here.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Commanding Division, Second Corps:

GENERAL: General Ord reports that a body of 5,000 of the enemy have taken up a position in rear of their lines opposite his left division, and he apprehends an attack to-day or to-night. A division of Tenth Corps was ordered yesterday to his support. The commanding general desires you to be vigilant, and to be prepared to co-operate with General Ord, in the event of his being attacked, with any reserved force you may have.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 24, 1864.

The troops will be formed in the rear line and be prepared for any movement at moment's notice, in accordance with the above. Great vigilance is required.

By command of Brigadier-General Mott:

JOHN HANCOCK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—3.40 p. m.

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Commanding Division, Second Corps:

General Ord reports that the troops mentioned in his previous report (about 5,000 in number, who threatened his front) are moving into Petersburg, apparently on the return to the north side of the Appomattox.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864.

The order for the movement of troops is hereby countermanded.
By command of Brigadier-General Mott:

JOHN HANCOCK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 24, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

From our advance signal station we can see the lead-works, and the enemy's line of defenses, which are full of troops. There is only a picket-line visible outside. At W. P. Davis' house would be an excellent position to place a redoubt. Having done this we could safely proceed to establish our lines closer Petersburg, or make that the starting point in a movement on the Danville road. This house is just on the line which divides the slope toward Petersburg from that southward.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I forward you the following:

SIGNAL STATION,
W. P. Davis' House—12.30 p. m.

Colonel LOCKE:

The enemy have a large party at work upon a line about 600 yards south 20 degrees east of lead-works and extending east across the railroad. No other movement visible.

GEO. J. CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

The two boys confirm this. They say they are building a high fort in advance of the town and are afraid we will shell the town from our advanced position.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

AUGUST 24, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Forward all these to General Meade at City Point.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864—1 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have just got two most intelligent boys, Northern born, about fourteen years old. They ran out of Petersburg yesterday. They saw General Lee and heard him say to General Hill and other officers that he would get us out of here by Saturday night. These boys say they are now wagoning supplies from Stony Creek Station, via the plank road, to Dinwiddie Court-House; thence by the Stony Creek road, and that all their cavalry are out in that direction. The road along the railroad goes into Petersburg at Halifax Creek; next west comes the Vaughan road—they live on it at Flowers'; then comes the Squirrel Level road; then the plank road. They say the rumor in Petersburg yesterday was that Early was coming back. They also say there was talk that they might charge our line somewhere east of the Jerusalem road. They are afraid we will extend around and get the other road unless Early gets back. These boys are so intelligent that I send them up to headquarters. They say the people of Petersburg are much frightened; that General Lee told a boy that was shut in the town like themselves, and was crying, that he'd have us out of here by last Friday night.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—4.30 p. m.

General GRANT:

I forward the above. I think General Lee meant last Saturday, when he tried and could not get us away. I hope he will try again. Ord seems to think now he will not be attacked.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—4.25 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The commanding general directs that you proceed at once to the erection of a redoubt at the point indicated in your dispatch to-day. Major Duane is directed to send an engineer officer and some engineer troops to report to you for the purpose.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have sent out Major Roebling to lay off the redoubt, but upon investigation I find that it will be difficult for me to work on it to-night. My men are all at work draining, building batteries, and repairing roads that I have tools for. I can afford protection to any other working party, however. The value of this ground demands prompt attention, and I am having it done as fast as possible.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Major Duane is ordered to send out intrenching tools for the redoubt, &c. General Parke will furnish some working party if he can well do so, upon your notifying him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 24, 1864—9 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have received your report of the signal officer.* This force may be only working parties going out. All the prisoners I sent you to-day say they are working on new line all along. I feel certain if they have gone out it is to interfere with General Hancock. They cannot do anything with me here.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
[*August 24, 1864*]—*9.10 p. m.*

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The columns were too strong for working parties, probably 8,000 or 10,000 strong. More probably after Hancock than after you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864—9.20 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

My signal officer has a good station to see about the lead-works, but, unfortunately, he left there about 5 p. m. Up to that time he had

* See Humphreys to Hancock, 8.20 p. m., p. 449.

seen nothing but working parties. It seems to me singular if they designed to attack any one that they should have started out at that hour, as they could not get far before dark, and might as well have waited for that to cover their movements. It looks like a feint, if anything, to me.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 207. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864.

I. Brigadier-General Bragg's brigade, Fourth Division, is temporarily assigned to the Third Division, Brigadier-General Crawford commanding. General Bragg will break up his present camp early to-morrow morning and remove to the camp of the Third Division.

II. Colonel Hofmann's brigade, Fourth Division, is assigned temporarily to the Second Division, Brigadier-General Ayres commanding.

III. The headquarters staff and provost guard of the Fourth Division will report to corps headquarters.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 24, 1864.

Col. C. S. WAINWRIGHT,
Commanding Artillery Brigade:

COLONEL: The inclosed telegram* is sent you for your information. The major-general commanding directs that you send a battery at daybreak to-morrow morning down to the left near the railroad.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—The battery to be sent will be taken from one of those near these headquarters.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that one officer and eighty-five men of the enemy's dead have been buried in my front. No flags were captured. This is exclusive of those buried on the front of the Fourth Division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

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* See Humphreys to Warren, 8.20 p. m., p. 449.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864. (Received 9.20 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The inclosed telegram* is sent you for your information. The major-general commanding directs that you have your command under arms at daybreak prepared to take position on the left of General Griffin, facing south.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRED. T. LOCKE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 24, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Brigade commanders will have their commands under arms at daybreak. The men will be aroused at 3 a. m. without noise and get their breakfast. At daybreak the command will be prepared to take position on the left of General Griffin, facing south.

By command of Brigadier-General Crawford:
GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 24, 1864.

Battery commanders will have their batteries in readiness to move at daybreak to-morrow morning, and wait further orders from these headquarters.

By command of Brigadier-General Crawford:
GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864—11 p. m.

Brigadier-General BRAGG:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that in case it becomes necessary you will receive and obey orders from Brigadier-General Crawford from your present position, as General Crawford may find it necessary to send orders to you before you can change your camp.

By command of Major-General Warren:
FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

General Warren is directed to commence to-night the construction of a redoubt at P. W. Jones', his most advance point on the Weldon rail-

* See Humphreys to Warren, 8.20 p. m., p. 449.

road, and an engineer officer with some engineer troops has been ordered to report to him. If he should ask for aid from you in the work, please furnish it if you can well do so.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Dispatch of 5.20 received. Will be happy to furnish General Warren all the aid in our power. Major Biddle inspected my line to-day. Will report the condition. Am having the slashing extended to the front. I ordered the roads in front of picket-line blockaded. Hope to have a summary of my line made to-morrow.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
August 24, 1864—11 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG, *Commanding Cavalry:*

GENERAL: General Hancock directs me to say that he has a dispatch from General Humphreys that signal officers report large bodies of infantry moving south from Petersburg on the Vaughan and Halifax roads, and General Humphreys expresses his opinion that they are for operation against us. General Warren, however, is of the opinion that they are working parties on a new line the enemy are known to be building. The general would like you to see how strongly the enemy hold the Vaughan road at daylight to-morrow, sending a squadron up the road as far as practicable.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 24, 1864—1.20 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding, &c.:*

Has a division of the Tenth Corps started yet to replace the Eighteenth? General Ord has just asked Meade for any spare troops he may have, stating that there are indications of an attack, and that a number of deserters having gone over to the enemy last night, who may have given information of his weakness, makes him fear the result. If a division of Birney's has not gone, how long will it take to get one there?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 24, 1864—1.45 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *Commanding, &c., City Point:*

General Ord telegraphs me that his lookouts inform him that large bodies of troops, supposed to be 5,000, are concentrating in front of his

lines, and asking for one division of General Birney's command, which I have ordered, he fearing attack either to-day or to-night. Deserters say that Mahone's division was relieved by Pickett's, which was cut up in the fight of Sunday. The fact that Mahone's division was in the fight appears in to-day's Examiner, which I have sent you. That there has been some change in my front between the James and Appomattox would appear from the fact that for the first time in many weeks picket-firing was started on our left near Port Walthall.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 24, 1864—2.06 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point:

Order was sent this morning for one division to move, and I suppose it is en route. I will hurry it along.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPRING HILL, *August 24, 1864—7.30 a. m.*

Captain NORTON,
Chief Signal Officer:

A train of ten cars, partly loaded with troops, just passed the Junction toward Petersburg.

SIMONS,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

SPRING HILL, *August 24, 1864.*

Captain NORTON:

All quiet on our picket-line now. A large addition to our picket arrived just now.

SIMONS,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 24, 1864—3.50 p. m.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The following rebel signal dispatch was intercepted by the officer on Mills' house station:

ARCHER'S HOUSE, *August 24, 1864—1.30 p. m.*

Colonel B.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Petersburg:

Colonel Jordan reports the enemy in heavy force on our right (in his front) near Swift Creek. From our present observations we have just seen three regiments pass an open space to our left of Cobb's, going to their front in Chesterfield.

R.,
Sergeant at C.

Respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

[Indorsement.]

General ORD:

This intercepted rebel dispatch may relieve you from apprehension of attack.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 24, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: I have incidentally heard that the Tenth Corps moves this p. m. to relieve the Eighteenth. If this is so, and the Eighteenth comes here, will you please inform me, as I shall have to make some arrangements in regard to keeping up the communication with the James River after the Tenth Corps has taken its signal officers away.

Respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 232. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C.,
August 24, 1864.

* * * * * * *

IV. Major-General Birney, commanding Tenth Corps, will with his corps relieve the Eighteenth Corps, under command of Major-General Ord, from duty on the left of the line of this army. Major-General Ord, upon being relieved by the troops under General Birney, will occupy the north side of the James with his brigade of negro troops at Deep Bottom. With Ames' division he will occupy the intrenched line between the Appomattox and the James. He will encamp at Spring Hill, the division under Brigadier-General Carr as a reserve. If Generals Birney and Ord will consult together and make such movements of their troops as will allow this change without attracting the notice of the enemy, save that there is no objection that the enemy shall see the troops of the Tenth Corps marching to the left; the movement of the Eighteenth Corps to the right it would be better to conceal. The light artillery along the two lines will be quietly changed by detachments, so as to attract no notice and be all the time in a state of efficiency. So much of the artillery of the Eighteenth Corps as will replace that which is now serving with the Eighteenth Corps from the Tenth Corps will be left on the line on the left, so as to preserve there the necessary number of guns. Further orders to arrange details, if necessary, will be issued as the movements progress.

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 24, 1864—11 a. m.

General BIRNEY:

The following has just been received by signal from Spring Hill:

There is a little firing between ours and the enemy's pickets opposite this station in piece of woods on left of line.

SIMONS,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

GEO. A. KENSEL,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 24, 1864—1 p. m. (Received 1.04 p. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY:

Please march at once a division to General Ord. He informs me that the enemy are massing troops in his front as if to make an attack.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864. (Received 1.28 p. m.)

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Deserters in to-day say that Pickett's division has been ordered to relieve Mahone's, which is badly cut up from Sunday's fight.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully sent to Lieutenant-General Grant.

B. F. B.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 24, 1864. (Received 2.05 p. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY:

Push at once all the troops you can to place of Eighteenth Corps. General Ord has started one division and says there is indication of an attack. Don't mind the division at Deep Bottom.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Lieutenant Ireland reports a column of infantry, from four to five regiments, moving to our left across the meadow opposite the Crow's Nest.

C. F. CROSS,
Lieutenant, Signal Corps.

AUGUST 24, 1864.

Colonel MCGILVERY,
Tenth Corps:

Please start your batteries as soon as you can. Our batteries are now all in position; none in reserve. Let me know when they start.

A. PIPER,
Colonel and Chief of Artillery.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 27. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., August 24, 1864.*

The Third New Hampshire Volunteers having been left by the death of Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton, killed in action at Fussell's Mill, without a field officer present, Maj. James F. Randlett of that regiment is, at his own request, relieved from duty as provost-marshal at these headquarters and will report for duty with his regiment.

II. Capt. J. E. Sweet, Twentieth Indiana Volunteers, acting aide-de-camp, is hereby announced as provost-marshal at these headquarters. Major Randlett will turn over to him all orders and instructions relative to the duties of the office.

By command of Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General Terry, commanding First Division, will proceed with his command at once to the position occupied by the Eighteenth Corps before Petersburg, and report to Major-General Ord. Brigadier-General Foster, commanding Second Division, will relieve the troops of the First Division on the line.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Colored Brigade:

The major-general commanding directs that you assume command of the colored troops encamped in the neighborhood of the signal tower, and take them with you when you move. They will constitute a brigade under your command. There are several regiments in that vicinity.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS.] HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 1ST DIV., 10TH A. C.,
Deep Bottom, Va., August 24, 1864.

In pursuance of orders from corps headquarters the brigadier-general commanding is temporarily relieved from command of this brigade and

ordered to another field of duty. In thus taking temporary leave of the brigade he takes pleasure in testifying to your uniform valor and good conduct and to the many gallant acts performed by you while it was his good fortune to command you. With many kind and sincere wishes for your future successes the general bids you a temporary good by.

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

General Orders, No. 25. } Hdqrs. 3d Brig., 1st Div., 10th A. C.,
Deep Bottom, Va., August 24, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster having been temporarily assigned to command the Second Division, Tenth Army Corps, the undersigned hereby assumes command of the Third Brigade, First Division, Tenth Army Corps.

H. M. PLAISTED,
Colonel Eleventh Maine Volunteers.

Headquarters Tenth Army Corps,
August 24, 1864.

Commanding officers will hold their commands ready to change camp at short notice.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(To division commanders.)

Headquarters Second Division, Tenth Army Corps,
Near Hatcher's, Va., August 24, 1864.

Col. N. M. Curtis,
Commanding First Brigade:

Colonel: Colonel Coan will take position in the line near Battery No. 1, prolonging his line toward Battery No. 3. The general commanding directs that you bivouac your troops in the intrenchments on the left of Colonel Coan in prolongation of his line. This movement will not be made until dusk. Your command will be held in readiness to man the breast-works in case of an attack of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD EDDY, Jr.,
Maj. Forty-seventh New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Insp. Gen., and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Headquarters Second Division, Tenth Army Corps,
Near Hatcher's, Va., August 24, 1864.

Col. N. M. Curtis:

Colonel: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you move your command to the position on the line of intrenchments before designated at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD EDDY, Jr.,
Maj. Forty-seventh New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Insp. Gen., and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Hatcher's, Va., August 24, 1864.

Lieut. Col. W. B. COAN,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: By direction of the brigadier-general commanding you will bivouac your command in the intrenchments, your right resting in rear of Battery No. 1. This movement will not be made until dusk. The command, however, will be held in readiness to move to the position in case of an assault by the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD EDDY, JR.,
Maj. Forty-seventh New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Insp. Gen., and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Hatcher's, Va., August 24, 1864.

Col. F. A. OSBORN,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: By direction of the brigadier-general commanding you will please detail at once 100 men to relieve the garrison of the redoubt in front of Battery No. 1, 100 men for the redoubt in front of Battery No. 3, and 50 men for the redoubt in front of Battery No. 6.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD EDDY, JR.,
Maj. Forty-seventh New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Insp. Gen., and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864—11.40 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, &c.:

The following has just been received:

HDQRS. THIRD BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Capt. J. JOHNSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, First Division:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the lookout from our brigade reports the enemy as having re-enforced their line in front of our brigade. A number of troops, estimated by the lookout as a brigade, have stacked arms and laid down in rear of their front line, and one company double-quicked to the pits, which they entered about in front of the Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania, the third regiment from the right of our brigade. This force is thought to be a part of the troops reported a short time since, this morning, as moving from Cemetery Hill toward Petersburg. The left of this line of stacks is about opposite the right of our brigade, and the right extends off toward the city.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. H. ROBERTS,
Colonel 139th New York, Commanding Brigade.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

Major-General Meade telegraphs that a division of the Tenth Corps was yesterday ordered to your support and will be hurried up. General Mott will co-operate with you as far as possible in the event of your being attacked.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 24, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

The following additional report has just been received from Colonel Roberts:

The troops reported as having stacked arms in line opposite my brigade front have withdrawn their right somewhat to seek shelter in the adjoining woods from the shells thrown by our batteries. There are two stand of colors visible along the stacks and the men are building fires as if preparing their meal.

From the above it does not appear probable that the enemy are massing in my front with a view to attack.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

(Forwarded to Lieutenant-General Grant.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

At what time will your second line probably be ready for occupation by your troops?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864—5.40 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

If you mean by my second line the redoubts in my front, they will not be finished in four days' hard work, 400 men day and night.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 24, 1864—12 m.

General BUTLER:

If you can send me a division, or a brigade at least, of General Birney's command it will be very acceptable. I have just learned from

lookouts that the rebels have placed about 5,000 men on a certain part of my front which is weak and vulnerable, and as the rebels have had intelligent deserters from my line with detailed information of its weak condition yesterday and the day before, I apprehend from this move of theirs an assault may be made by them to-day or to-night.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864. (Received 12.45 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

An officer from General Birney is here and says that General Birney is awaiting orders. I have none to give. Has any been sent.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 24, 1864—1 p. m. (Received 1.30 p. m.)

Major-General ORD:

Your order and that of General Birney went at 11 o'clock to both of you. Have you received it? I have ordered Birney to send you a division at once.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864. (Received 4 p. m.)

Major DAVIS:

Telegrams relating to General Birney's move and Colonel Howard received. All right. From further information I think the enemy are simply replacing reserves in my front. Will General Birney's division get here in time to have one of mine relieved and cross the Appomattox to-night? I have received no word from him as to his movements.

ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY:

Will you have enough men here to-night to relieve a division of 2,800 men; if so, what time may I expect them?

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864—4.20 p. m. (Received 4.23 p. m.)

General ORD,
Eighteenth Corps:

General Terry has marched with his division to report to you; should reach you by dusk. Directly one division of yours reaches me will relieve my command and march over.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 24, 1864.

General CARR,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The report just received of the brigade (rebel) forming in rear of our Third Brigade rather indicates a re-enforcement, and perhaps attempt to assault. Please have a reserve called from your trenches at once—if it can be done secretly all the better—and send them to the Hare house redoubt, and as re-enforcement to the point threatened. Send a detail to the Hare house redoubt of 150 men to finish some embrasures there under direction of Major Walker. Send the detail at once. Major Walker or some one to represent him will be there.

Yours, &c.,

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

AUGUST 24, 1864—8.40 p. m.

Colonel PIPER,
Chief of Artillery, Eighteenth Army Corps:

I have sent Lieutenant Worth with your orderly to Captain Harn with orders that if there are three disposable batteries to send one to relieve Angel. So much depends on the artillery now that it will not do to strip ourselves of it entirely. Please let me know as soon as the Tenth Corps batteries arrive. They should be hurried up so as to be here as early as possible to-morrow.

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Near Prince George Court-House, Va., August 24, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: General Gregg notified me two days since that he had directed the regiments of my command under Colonel Spear to report to me here. Yesterday Colonel Spear reported by letter that he had been directed by General Meade to report to General Gregg. Knowing that General Gregg considers his cavalry force sufficient, I suspect

that the order was given to Colonel Spear at his own request. If so, I question very much whether the interests of the service would be promoted by detaching him from his division on his own suggestion, as his judgment cannot be compared with his merits as an individual soldier. I respectfully request that the necessity of the case be submitted to General Gregg. At the same time I consider it my duty to report that there are two large gaps in the line between the Jerusalem road and the James River—one on the left and the other on the right of Mount Sinai Church, my command being insufficient at present.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 24, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Division Cavalry:

Your dispatch of 9 a. m. is received. The commanding general requests me to say that you misapprehend the circumstances under which Colonel Spear's command was retained on the Weldon railroad. The commanding general gave the order without any representation from Colonel Spear, or any expression of opinion by him. It was based upon the strength of the enemy's cavalry there (two divisions), and the active operations now going on on the Weldon railroad, which require all the force that can be rendered available without excessive weakening of important points. With your reduced force the commanding general expects you to look after only those avenues of approach that are most likely to be used by the enemy.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, *August 25, 1864.*

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I start at 4 p. m. for Fortress Monroe. Will start from there to return to-morrow night.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 25, 1864—5 p. m.*
(Received 7.15 a. m. 26th.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

There are indications of the enemy attacking us this evening or in the morning. I shall not therefore go to Fort Monroe as I telegraphed you this morning.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 25, 1864—11 a. m.*
(Received 6 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

It is understood in Richmond that Fitz Lee has been ordered back from the Valley with his cavalry division. I have no doubt of the truth of the rumor. If the men of the Second Division now in Washington can be remounted and returned here, and horses sent to remount those here without horses, we will be strong enough and can render their cavalry almost useless.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 25, 1864—2.30 p. m.*
(Received 6 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Pickett's and Field's divisions are here. You can say this to General Sheridan, and that there is no doubt about it. One regiment from each of the four brigades of Pickett's division were detached a couple of weeks ago, and for some time I did not know but that they had gone to the Valley. These regiments are now back.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 25, 1864—8.30 p. m.*
(Received 7 a. m. 26th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Up to the last accounts this afternoon from General Hancock, who is south of Reams' Station, he had been attacked several times to-day, but had repulsed every assault. Since the last dispatch very heavy and continuous artillery firing has been heard in that direction, continuing until dark. When I hear from there will telegraph you again.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Everything is apparently quiet this morning. Last evening the signal officers reported large bodies of the enemy moving along the Weldon railroad near the lead-works, going southwardly, and this morning they report the disappearance during the night of camps from our front. This intelligence has been communicated to Generals Warren and Hancock, and the latter instructed to move with caution and be on the alert, and in case he finds the enemy interposing between himself and Warren to return and rejoin the army. The last dispatch from Hancock is 6 a. m., in which he reports that in consequence of the above intelligence he has this morning ceased work on the railroad till he can satisfy himself the road is clear of the enemy and his rear unthreatened.

The road has been thoroughly destroyed some three miles beyond Reams' Station, and within two miles of Rowanty Creek. If it is determined to maintain a permanent lodgment on the Weldon road, it will be necessary to erect some redoubts and in other ways strengthen the position and our lines. If the lines from the plank road to the Appomattox can be made secure I see no difficulty in holding the Weldon road with the Fifth, Ninth, and part of the Second Corps, and perhaps extending beyond to the Lynchburg road. I do not deem it advisable, however, to commence the proposed work, involving considerable labor, unless it is settled the position is to be maintained. Is it intended the Eighteenth Corps, on being relieved, are to return to Bermuda Hundred, or will any portion be left as a reserve to the Tenth Corps?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, City Point:

General Meade has just gone to General Hancock's headquarters. The force of cavalry between the plank road and James River is still small. The cattle should not return yet to Coggins' Point.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, *August 25, 1864.*

General MEADE:
(Care General Hancock.)

I feel too unwell to-day to get to the front. Think I will take a boat this evening and go to Fortress Monroe and return to-morrow night. Would it not be safe for Hancock to pick up all the force he has on the railroad and make one day's march toward Weldon and destroy there a few miles of road, and return by a road farther east than the one he goes on?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Hancock reports the enemy passing his left and threatening the plank road in his rear. I don't think he can destroy much more of the railroad than he has if the enemy interrupt him, because his force is so small that he must keep it in hand to meet attacks and have but small working parties. Movements reported by signal officers in connection with statements of deserters in this morning lead to the conclusion that Lee is about making an effort to get us away from the railroad. This will take, I think, the form of passing our left and threatening our rear on the plank road. I am making preparations to meet this contingency. Should Hancock be pressed or the enemy interposed between him and Warren I shall withdraw him to the plank road.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 25, 1864.*

General MEADE:

I think it advisable to get all our forces back on the line we now hold, and strengthen it well. When that is done we can detach 15,000 or 20,000 men, and start them early in the morning so as to make a march of twenty miles, and destroy the road that distance. We may be able at the same time to send the army gun-boats up the Chowan with a detachment of troops to destroy the triangle of roads between the Nottoway and Roanoke.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 25, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

I send a dispatch* just received from Hancock. I have ordered Mott's reserves and Willcox's division, Ninth Corps, down the plank road to the branching off of the Reams' Station road to watch Hancock's rear, and move up to his support if necessary. If the enemy will only attack either Hancock or Warren we are all right, but he may bother us by maneuvering and getting between the two forces.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

(Same to General Humphreys.)

CITY POINT, VA., *August 25, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

I think from last dispatches received from General Hancock he had better be instructed to fall back at once to our line.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *August 25, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

The following dispatch just received and forwarded for your information:

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS—4.05 p. m.

General GRANT:

The following rebel dispatch has just been deciphered by our signal officer:

"2.30 P. M.

"General PICKETT:

"Your dispatch of date 2 p. m. received. Be prepared to blow up your mine at any time, as Hoke's two divisions are ordered to you. Pontoon bridge across Appomattox must be captured as soon as practicable.

"G. T. BEAUREGARD,
"General."

I have sent copy to General Ord.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See Hancock to Humphreys, 11.40 a. m., p. 482.

CITY POINT, *August 25, 1864—6 p. m.*

General MEADE:

I desire to hold the Weldon railroad as long as possible. Redoubts should be constructed on Warren's left, and the line generally strengthened. It is not intended to keep any more troops south of the Appomattox than is necessary to hold the line.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—7.15 p. m.

General GRANT:

Your dispatch of 6 p. m. just received on my return. Do you mean to hold to the Weldon railroad or to the Jerusalem plank road, or the line we now hold? I presume, as you said this morning to build the redoubts on the railroad, that you mean the line now held by Warren, but to prevent misunderstanding ask for explicit instructions. When I left, Hancock had repulsed several attacks of the enemy; Willcox was moving up to his support. After leaving I heard rapid and continuous artillery firing, which is now going on. No report from Hancock. He was directed to withdraw after dark as he could not work any more on the railroad for the presence of the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 25, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

I meant by my dispatch that we would hold our present line to and west of the Weldon railroad.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *August 25, 1864—10 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Lieutenant-General Grant requests me to ask if anything has been heard from Hancock since your dispatch of 6 [7.15?] p. m.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

A staff officer has just arrived from Hancock, leaving him at 7 p. m. At that time the enemy, having massed, assaulted Hancock with great vehemence in front and on both flanks, carrying, I regret to say, his intrenched line on his right flank. At the time the staff officer left Hancock had rallied his men, reformed them, and was preparing to re-

take his line, which he hoped to do. The road in his rear, leading to the plank road, was yet open, and the staff officer met Willcox's column about two miles from the scene of action and hurried them up. I have sent orders to Warren and Parke to immediately send Crawford's and White's divisions to Hancock's support and to assist him in withdrawing. Hancock was authorized several times during the day to withdraw if the security of his command required it or if the enemy interposed between him and Warren. On my return here at 7.30, finding a dispatch from him intimating he desired orders to withdraw, specific orders were sent, but, although the operator acknowledged the receipt and said they were delivered, I fear the enemy at that time had possession of the road between the operator and Hancock. I am in hopes the arrival of Willcox has enabled Hancock to recover his intrenchments, and that he will withdraw as soon as it is dark. Should the enemy follow to-morrow, the re-enforcements carried by Crawford may enable Hancock to punish him.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 25, 1864—11.20 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

The enemy having carried Hancock's rifle-pits have probably captured a good many prisoners. In that case, and finding, too, that Hancock is being re-enforced, they will be likely to return to-night with their prisoners and attack Warren in the morning. Warren ought to be well on his guard.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—11.20 p. m.

General GRANT:

Another staff officer has arrived from General Hancock, who left him at 8 p. m. At that time all was quiet. Hancock had been unable to recover that portion of his line which the enemy got possession of. The staff officer reports the fighting very severe and desperate; he can form no idea of our losses, though thinks they must be considerable. I regret to state he reports the loss of eight pieces of artillery. It appears the enemy got possession of a salient in the line where two batteries were posted. The staff officer says from the number of attacks repulsed the enemy's losses must be far greater than ours. General Hancock was making his preparations to withdraw when this officer left, and as his rear was all open no difficulty in this operation is anticipated. The wounded will all be brought off, but the dead cannot be buried. I have directed the re-enforcements ordered to be halted and held in readiness for movement to-morrow in case Hancock is followed or attacked.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—11.50 p. m.

General GRANT:

On learning that Hancock was withdrawing I ordered Parke and Warren to halt the re-enforcements on the way to him, and communicate with him as to the necessity of their advancing farther, and in case he did not require them to recall them. Warren felt perfectly secure without these reserves; with them he will be prepared for any attack. I think it probable the enemy may follow up Hancock on the plank road, though if he has been as severely punished as the accounts from Hancock would indicate, he will most probably be satisfied with Hancock's withdrawal and the capture of the guns. I have already reported that it was the opinion of the staff officer that the loss in prisoners was small.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, *August 25, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Scouts report that no troops had moved to or from the Valley up to Tuesday night, 23d. Rebels are hauling considerable grain by wagon to Beaver Dam Station.

GEO. K. LEET,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 25, 1864—2.30 p. m.*
(Received 6 p. m.)

Brevet Major-General MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

General Gregg has 700 dismounted men here, and wants that number of cavalry horses at once. He has 900 dismounted men in Washington, and would like to have them mounted and sent back. General Grant has sent orders to General Halleck on the subject. I have not heard from Kautz, but presume he will require 1,400. Five hundred have been received and issued to Kautz.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—12.20 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have just arrived at Mott's on my way. Have two deserters who were from Mahone. They said Mahone was not relieved this morning; that two of his brigades had gone up to the railroad; that the troops we saw yesterday in front of Ord were Scales' brigade, Wilcox's division, and that they continued on to the railroad; that the talk among the men was that Lee was accumulating all his available force on the railroad determined to drive us off; that in front of Mott's they had but one rank in the intrenchments, the line not being as strong as their

picket-line, and that they depended on their artillery to hold this line. I directed Mott to have his reserves all ready to send to Hancock or Warren if required. Parke tells me there has been cannonading at Reams' about an hour ago.

GEO. G. MEADE.
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Warren informs me that Hancock has sent word that the enemy's cavalry have broken through his left, and indicates a fear of their getting possession of the plank road. Direct General Mott to send his available force immediately down the plank road to the intersection of the Reams' Station road. He will find some artillery of the Ninth Corps at the Williams house and can take all of the batteries. Tell him to communicate to Hancock as soon as he reaches there. Hancock is at Reams' Station.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
General Warren's Headquarters:

General W[arren] will show you dispatch from General H[ancock] dated 11.40 a. m. I send you one dated 10.20 a. m. I notified Mott at once, and Parke also, informing them of substance of Hancock's dispatch, and telling them to get all their commands under arms, Mott to hold the greater part of his ready to move in any direction, all except a thin line in the intrenchments. I have ordered the cavalry at headquarters, provost-marshal-general's included, to get ready, and will send them down the plank road to look out there and report to the officer commanding in that vicinity. I have notified Kautz.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
General Warren's Headquarters:

Captain McEntee reports the statement of two deserters from Harris' brigade, Mahone's division, who deserted from picket-line this morning at 6 o'clock. Wright's, Harris', and Finegan's brigades are in the trenches. Weisiger's and Sanders' brigades, together with Scales' brigade, of Wilcox's division, went down the Weldon railroad about dark yesterday. Davis' brigade, of Heth's division, they say, is on the left of Finegan; the remainder of Heth, they think, is on the right of Mahone. They think Hagood's and Colquitt's brigades marched with theirs last evening down the railroad. Major Fisher, signal officer, says the troops working on the intrenchments south of the lead-works

number about 2,000. I mention these statements so that Hancock may have what data there is for estimating the force about him. The deserters are, I suppose, those you saw this morning.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Comdg. Army of the Potomac, General Warren's Headquarters:

Mott has sent 2,200 men down the plank road. I am supplying their places with engineer troops, about 1,000 strong, and the headquarters infantry. Patrick had but forty cavalry, which I sent with Mott's troops.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

The following dispatch from General Hancock just received:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Just received your dispatch by Captain Rosencrantz. I fear it will be too late to have Willcox get here for any practicable purpose, as he is between four and five miles off now. Still I shall order up his division. Had the division come down the railroad it would have been here in time. I desire to know as soon as possible whether you wish me to return from this station to-night in case we can get through safe.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

P. S.—Skirmishing going on in my front. Do not know whether the next attack will be on my right or left. I think on my left.

W. S. H.

Hancock telegraphed at 3.40 p. m.:

The enemy just assaulted Miles and were repulsed, and prisoners say badly broken. Anderson's brigade, of Field's division, these prisoners say, the only one.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
City Point, August 25, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: One of our agents left Richmond about noon of day before yesterday, having arrived there on Monday afternoon about 4 o'clock. By direction he inquired from many different sources, and seemed to be entirely satisfied that no troops had been sent either to the Valley or to Atlanta, but understood, on the contrary, that it was considered

necessary, and that the order had already gone forth, that one of the cavalry divisions sent to Early should return. Some other citizens stated that the division recalled was already on its way back, but our agent was unable to fix this with certainty. Citizens in Richmond said that Early had whipped the Yankees out of the Valley, and that he was now on his way to Pennsylvania. A Mr. Slater, who is a clerk in the telegraph office at Richmond, said that General Sherman would be the worst used up man in this war, and that operations in his rear were in progress that would insure his defeat. Twenty-seven hundred prisoners are claimed to have been taken in the fight on the Weldon railroad, who are now on Belle Isle, but are to be shortly sent to Georgia. It is claimed that the Weldon railroad is to be retaken at whatever cost. A very large number of wounded men were brought into Richmond from the direction of Petersburg after the railroad fight, and the agent thinks that the trains running on Monday from Petersburg to Richmond and returning were loaded with the wounded going up, and going down were conveying the troops which had been operating on the north side of the river. He could not learn of any new movements of troops, except of the return of those which had been on the north side of the James. He did not see as much as a company of soldiers in Richmond while there. In going to Richmond on Monday saw no troops, except about 300 cavalry near White's Tavern. He understood that they were going to Malvern Hill. The force which two weeks ago was camped about four miles from White's Tavern, toward the river, estimated at about seven regiments, is there still. The road for about thirteen miles southerly from Richmond is blocked with fallen trees. Flour, which a week ago was worth $210, sold day before yesterday for $300, and is still advancing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The last deserters who know anything of Mahone came in on night of 23d instant and stated that Finegan's and Wright's brigades were there, and they supposed the whole division was there. Inclosed please find telegram from General Butler's department, which is the latest we have in regard to Pickett.*

Very respectfully,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from Forty-eighth Mississippi, Harris' brigade, Mahone's division, who left their picket-line this morning about 6 o'clock, just arrived here, and make the following report:

* See Davenport to Sharpe, August 23, p. 437.

Mahone's division lies in the trenches, occupying their old position, and is disposed in the following order from their right to left, viz, Wright, Harris, Finegan. The two other brigades, Weisiger's and Sanders', together with Scales' brigade, of Wilcox's division, marched down the Weldon railroad about dark. They were ordered to leave their tents standing and to get away as quietly as possible. During the latter part of yesterday afternoon informants saw Generals Lee and Beauregard riding hurriedly up the Weldon railroad in front of the lead-works. They are of impression that the enemy intend attacking our left again. Davis' brigade, of Heth's division, they say, is on the left of Finegan's, and the balance of Heth's division, they think, is on the right of Mahone's division, lying to the right of the lead-works. They say that the enemy have no troops in reserve about the city; that all troops, except those marched down the railroad, are lying in the trenches. They think that Hagood's and Colquitt's brigades marched down the railroad yesterday evening with troops of their division. One of them is certain that he saw Scales' brigade marching in that direction (down the railroad) last evening, but saw no other brigade of Wilcox's division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS GENERAL WARREN,
[*August 25, 1864*]—*4.10 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

The following from Captain McEntee is just received:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from Forty-first Virginia Regiment, Mahone's brigade and division, who left his picket-line, on the right of plank road, about 12 o'clock to-day, reports that Mahone's and Sanders' brigades, with exception of Forty-first Virginia Regiment, marched last evening, with three days' rations. He heard the major of his regiment say that three divisions, besides the two mentioned brigades, were on the move, and he thought their destination was Stony Creek. An important move, he said, was on foot, and he thought they intended to get in rear of General Warren.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

P. S.—He also states that there are very few men in our front; that the men are in one rank in the trenches and have no reserve.

J. McE.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—7.10 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Inclosed please find note just received from Colonel Sharpe. Sanders' and Mahone's brigades, of Mahone's division, may be in front

of General Butler, but I think the balance of the division still in our front. We had a deserter who left there at 12 o'clock to-day, and he states that Finegan, Harris, and Wright were then in our front.

Respectfully,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

[Inclosure.]

CITY POINT, *August 25, 1864.*

Captain McENTEE:

I learn that the information of General Butler to-day is to the effect that Field is still on the north side of the James. Nothing is known there of Wilcox. "Mahone arrived to the rear of Pickett's division at 1 o'clock this a. m. He is going to relieve Pickett, it is stated, who is going to Petersburg."

Yours,

G. H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—7.15 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Mahone's and Sanders' brigades may be in General Butler's front, but the balance of that division was in our front at 12 m. to-day, so says deserter.

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point, Va.:

Deserter from Forty-first Virginia reports that Sanders' and Mahone's brigades, with exception of Forty-first Regiment, moved last night with three days' rations. Heard the major of his regiment say that three divisions besides the two brigades were on the march, and that an important move was on foot. Suppose their destination was Stony Creek and intention to get in Warren's rear. Intelligent contraband from west of Reams' says the pickets told his master that a big force was to be there to-day and whip the Yankees off railroad. Generals Lee and Beauregard were seen riding rapidly about near lead-works yesterday evening. Scales' brigade was seen on the march with other troops. Troops are in one line in our front with no reserves.

J. McENTEE,
Captain.

CITY POINT, *August 25, 1864—8 p. m.*

Captain McENTEE,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

I think it proper to say that the information sent you in quotation marks to the effect of Mahone being in the rear of Pickett is not of the

highest value. Manning sends me word just now that he has just examined an intelligent deserter from Twenty-fourth Virginia, Terry's brigade, who says that Mahone is not there, and that Pickett, with Thomas' brigade, Wilcox's division, only, are before their intrenchments.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
[*August 25, 1864.*]

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

General Hancock was attacked six times by the enemy and repulsed them five times, with heavy loss to them and light on our part. In the sixth attack they broke through Barlow's division, and captured several guns. The balance of Hancock's line held its position until evening, when it is said both parties retired. The Fifth Corps was not engaged, but holds its old position, Second in rear of Fifth.

J. McENTEE,
Captain.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 25, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE:

I find Field still on north side of James. Can get no positive information of any of Wilcox's division. Mahone arrived in the rear of Pickett's division this a. m. at 1 o'clock. He is going to relieve Pickett, it is stated, who is going to Petersburg. I leave immediately for Washington and New York with the general. Shall be gone a week. Manning will do my work while gone and keep you informed thereof. The flag of truce letters received. They shall be forwarded.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp, and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 25, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Several deserters arrived since Davenport left. They report no changes. Just examined deserter from Twenty-fourth Virginia, Terry's brigade, in our front. He is quite intelligent and says Mahone is not there. Pickett's division, with Thomas' brigade, Wilcox's division, only before our intrenchments. The prisoners have been sent to Bermuda. I have had possession of this office but a few hours.

FRED. L. MANNING,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The lookout at the plank road station reports as follows:

7 A. M.

No movements visible. The enemy continues working upon their line of intrenchments along the Weldon railroad. The number of men at work is greater than that last evening, but not so large as that yesterday morning. All quiet.

H. W. FULTON.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch I received from a lookout stationed on a tree near the Gibbon house and overlooking the city and vicinity:

An infantry camp in rear of Cemetery Hill disappeared last night, also a majority of enemy's camps in environs of city have disappeared. No unusual movements visible this morning.

A. C. JORDAN.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

AUGUST 25, 1864.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Nothing of moment noticed this morning. A body of about 400 infantry without arms moved into the city from the right on the line of the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad.

A. C. JORDAN.

SIGNAL STATION EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

At 9 a. m. rebel signal station reports nineteen wagons passing in rear of Battery 5 going toward City Point. A number of stragglers, also, going toward our ———; also, column of infantry passing the ——— of Cobb's and nine wagons on Bermuda Hundred road going toward that point. No movements of rebels observed.

FULLER,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Jordan's House, August 25, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

A few infantry stragglers are now on the road in rear of Whitehead's going in direction of Petersburg. I send the following rebel messages:

Colonel BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Infantry drilling in open space to our left of Cobb's. Gun-boat below Point of Rocks. Nine wagons passed open space going down the Bermuda Hundred road toward that point.

R.,
Sergeant at C.

(Same to A. B.)

Colonel BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Fifty-seven wagons, mostly six-horse, with guard of fifty cavalry, have just passed Bermuda Hundred road going toward our front in Chesterfield.

R.,
Sergeant at C.

(Same to A. B.)

T. R. CLARK,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

JORDAN'S HOUSE, *August 25, 1864—11 a. m.*

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Colonel BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A battery of six pieces, six horses to a piece, followed by six wagons, has just passed over pontoon, going toward Petersburg on the Broadway road.

R.,
Sergeant at C.

(Same to A. B.)

T. R. CLARK,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

GIBBON'S HOUSE, *August 25, 1864—4.20 p. m.*

Major FISHER:

A battery of six guns, with caissons, came into town at the cross-roads moving to the right. Could not trace them out of city again.

JORDAN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 25, 1864. (Received 5.45 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following intercepted rebel messages are respectfully forwarded:

HEADQUARTERS PICKETT'S DIVISION,
August 25, 1864—2 p. m.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

Have felt the enemy's front and discovered force all prepared on my line.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General, Commanding

2.05 P. M.

Colonel BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There is a large brigade of infantry drawn up in line of battle through open space to our left of Cobb's.

R.,
Sergeant at [C.].

(Same to A. B.)

The rebel signal station has also reported this a. m. fifty-seven wagons with a guard of fifty cavalry passing on Bermuda Hundred road, going toward their front in Chesterfield; also two batteries of artillery passing in rear of Battery 5, going to our front.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

(Forwarded to General Ord by General Humphreys.)

JORDAN HOUSE, *August 25, 1864—2.05 p. m.*

Major FISHER:

The following messages just received (intercepted):

Colonel BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

About one large brigade of infantry, followed by twenty-five wagons and ten ambulances, coming from behind their Petersburg front, had just passed, going down Broadway road, their head of column halting at their heavy works on Gilliam's field to our right of that point. The brigade of infantry has crossed pontoon and halted in open space to our left of Cobb's. Officers seem very actively employed.

R.,
Sergeant at [C.].

(Same to A. B.)

In my front just discovered a force all prepared on my line.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General, Commanding.

I did not get the address of the message from General Pickett.

T. R. CLARK,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 229. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *August 25, 1864.*

I. When detachments of engineer troops that may have been assigned to duty with army corps are relieved from such service, no officers or men belonging to such detachments will be retained with the corps except when specially authorized from these headquarters.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—1.05 a. m. (Received 3.45 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The troops seen moving in the way indicated numbered 8,000 or 10,000, and the time was a little before sunset.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—6 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

On account of the information you gave to me last night, I have concluded not to send General Gibbon's division out to work this morning until I have satisfied myself that such a force is not in my immediate vicinity. I shall send out and see how far I can clear the roads to my front and right this morning. There are important roads coming in from the stage road between Reams' and where the working party would go. I consider my force too small to separate such a distance until sure that the enemy's infantry is not in my front.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—9 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Gregg has struck the Vaughan road at two different points, and I can hear nothing of any movement of the enemy on that road. I am sending General Gibbon out to work.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

(Copy to General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch of this morning is received. The commanding general approves your course. He desires you to keep your command well together and proceed with caution. Should the enemy interpose with overpowering force between you and Warren, you should fall back to the plank road, or farther if necessary.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—10.20 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

While General Gibbon was moving out the enemy drove in Spear's cavalry on the road crossing the railroad about a mile to my left, near the Smart house. General Gibbon was instructed to drive them back to the point they came from before proceeding farther. They show a pretty strong front, probably only cavalry.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 25, 1864—11.40 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy have driven in the cavalry on the left on the Stony Creek road. Part of them or some other force has passed around to my left and broken through Gregg's line running from here to the plank road. I do not know that there is anything more than cavalry. If there is anything on the plank road around the Williams house it had better be looked after. General Gibbon is engaging the enemy on my left, and General Gregg, with a few infantry, is attacking those who broke through to the rear.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Warren has informed me of your dispatch announcing the breaking through your left by the enemy's cavalry. I have directed Mott to send all his available force down the plank road to the Reams' Station road and to take one of Parke's batteries, now at the Williams house, with him. The officer in charge of this command is directed to report to you on his arrival. I think, from all the information I can obtain, that the enemy are about assuming the offensive, and will either attack you or interpose between you and Warren. Under these circumstances, I fear we cannot do much more damage to the railroad. That being the case, you can exercise your judgment about withdrawing your command and resuming your position on the left and rear of Warren, either where you were before or any other position which, in your judgment, will be better calculated for the purpose and based on the knowledge of the country your recent operations may have given you. Let me know by the bearer the condition of things in your front, and your views.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—2 p. m.

General MEADE:

GENERAL: The enemy have been feeling all around me and are now cheering in my front, advancing and driving in my skirmishers. I

think they will next move across the road between Warren and myself as they press my lines. Two prisoners taken at different times say that all of Hampton's cavalry and a part of Hill's corps, or all of it, are in my front—one prisoner said Heth's division.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 25, 1864—2.45 p. m.

General MEADE:

Considering that the enemy intend to prevent any further destruction of the railroad, there is no great necessity of my remaining here, but it is more important that I should join Warren; but I do not think, closely engaged as I am at present, I can withdraw safely at this time. I think it will be well to withdraw to-night, if I am not forced to do so before. Everything looks promising at present, except that, being in an inclosed position, the enemy are liable to pass between myself and Warren and I cannot determine the fact, so that Warren had better be watchful until I can make a practicable connection with him. I shall try to keep my cavalry engaged to keep them off the plank road.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Copy to General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 25, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

In addition to Mott's troops, I have ordered Willcox's division, Ninth Corps, to the plank road, where the Reams' Station road branches off. Willcox is ordered to report to you. Call him up if necessary. He will have some artillery with him. I hope you will be able to give the enemy a good thrashing. All I apprehend is his interposing between you and Warren. You must look out for this. I hold some more of Warren's forces ready for contingencies.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The prisoners taken thus far belong to Wilcox's division and the cavalry. One of them says he saw A. P. Hill over here about two miles this morning. There is nothing more than skirmishing going on just now. The enemy have attacked twice, once with McGowan's and once with Scales' brigade.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 25, 1864—3.40 p. m.

General MEADE:

The enemy just assaulted Miles' front in two lines, but were repulsed, and prisoners say were badly broken up. They give some indication of an attack now on my left. The enemy's advance was made without firing a shot and some of the prisoners were taken within fifteen paces of the breast-works. Anderson's brigade, of Field's division, is here—prisoners say the only one. A second prisoner says he saw Hill on the field. This prisoner says he is a Union man.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

An examination of the country leads me to believe that the enemy cannot turn my right without making a wide detour by the Vaughan road, and they have not time to do this to-night. The right of my line extends nearly to Jones' Hole Swamp, impassable for troops in line. I am more apprehensive concerning my left, but it is getting so late the enemy must make vigorous use of the time to gain any advantage. I have ordered up Willcox's division as a precaution. Have heard nothing from the cavalry reported to have passed in the direction of the plank road. There is only skirmishing going on now.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

The latest indications are that the enemy have drawn a line from my left, covering the railroad and the roads to Dinwiddie and Stony Creek. They are heard chopping, I suppose felling abatis, though the pickets report they hear artillery moving where the chopping is going on. I still hold the road between me and Warren. The enemy have made no demonstration on the Vaughan road.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I have just seen Captain McEntee and learned the agreeable news that you have repulsed the enemy. Willcox is moving up, in accordance with your orders. There is some force of Mott's at this point, which you must remember in any movement you make to-night. You can with-

draw to-night if you deem it best for the security of your command. If the destruction of the road cannot be continued there is no object in holding Reams', except to keep out the enemy, a secondary matter. I prefer having your corps within supporting distance of Warren and to assist in holding his flank and rear.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you withdraw to-night and take post in the vicinity of the Williams house, or some point covering the plank road and looking toward Warren's left. Direct General Gregg to post the cavalry so as to watch General Warren's left and around past the plank road. General Mott has 2,200 men at the intersection of the Reams' Station road with the plank road, which please withdraw and send to their former positions in the intrenchments.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—9 p. m. (Received 8 a. m. 26th.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general desires to know about the attack which commenced at 5.30 p. m.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

At 7.30 p. m. an order was sent you by telegraph to withdraw and take position near the Williams house, looking toward Warren's left. The telegraph operator here reported that it was received by your telegraph operator, but it is apparent now, since the arrival of your staff officer, Captain McEntee, that your telegraph office was then in the hands of the enemy, who probably got the dispatch. It also referred to Mott's brigade at the intersection of the Reams' Station road with the plank road. The commanding general directs you to withdraw if you can do so with security, and desires me to inform you that he has ordered Crawford's division and White's division, of the Ninth Corps, both under Crawford, to move at once to your support. Crawford will take with him the two brigades of Mott on the plank road, about 2,000 strong. These re-enforcements the commanding general hopes will be sufficient to cover your withdrawal.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Commanding Second Corps:*

DEAR GENERAL: No one sympathizes with you more than I do in the misfortunes of this evening. McEntee gave me such good accounts of affairs up to the time he left, and it was then so late, I deferred going to you as I intended. If I had had any doubt of your ability to hold your lines from a direct attack, I would have sent Willcox with others down the railroad, but my anxiety was about your rear, and my apprehension that they would either move around your left or interpose between you and Warren. To meet the first contingency I sent Willcox down the plank road, and for the second I held Crawford and White ready to move and attack. At the same time I thought it likely after trying you they might attack Warren, and wanted to leave him till the last moment some reserves. I am satisfied you and your command have done all in your power, and though you have met with a reverse, the honor and escutcheons of the old Second are as bright as ever, and will on some future occasion prove it is only when enormous odds are brought against them that they can be moved. Don't let this matter worry you, because you have given me every satisfaction.

Yours, truly,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—11.25 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch by Captain Miller is received. The commanding general has ordered General Crawford's division, General White's division, and Mott's two brigades, to move up to your support at once to cover your withdrawal. Should you not need them you will send them back to their commands. The commanding general approves your withdrawal.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK, *Commanding Second Corps:*

GENERAL: In returning to you the accompanying communications in reference to the statement of Colonel Spear, that during his recent engagement with the enemy he was unable to obtain from the troops in the vicinity the assistance he needed, I am instructed to say that the explanations of Brigadier-Generals Barlow and Gregg are entirely satisfactory; and that the commanding general has no comments to make respecting the matter, further than to say, that if General Barlow considered it inexpedient to send to Colonel Spear the support thought necessary by that officer he should have ordered him to fall back if hard pressed.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Commanding Division, Second Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general understands that your line of pickets has a line of supports outside of the intrenchments. As your fighting line is the intrenchments, and as the sole object of the pickets in the present instance is to give warning of the approach of the enemy, it seems to him that the pickets should be merely numerous enough for lookouts, and that the part of your force used as supports to the pickets would be better situated along the intrenchments. In the event of an attack the return of so many of your men to the intrenchments, if followed closely by the enemy, would embarrass your fire and screen the enemy from it. The staff officer who visited the line yesterday reports that no part of the troops behind the intrenchments had their accouterments on. It is supposed the line of supports was expected to hold the enemy in check sufficiently long to enable the troops not on picket to get to their places; but should the enemy try the maneuver, which they have several times executed with success, of moving in rapidly by the flank, it is apprehended they might succeed. The line of supports in the dense woods would be of no service. If posted in the intrenchments they would be.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Commanding Division, Second Corps:

General Hancock, in a dispatch dated 11.40 a. m., reports that some force of the enemy has broken through Gregg's line across from the Weldon railroad to the plank road. General Gregg is looking after it. You had better send at once to your force in the large redoubt and along the intrenchments to the Strong house, and get them under arms and hold them ready for movement in any direction. Have the rest of your command ready also for anything that may turn up.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—1.35 p. m.

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Commanding Division, Second Corps:

The major general commanding directs that you send all your available force at once down the plank road to the intersection of the Reams' Station road. You will find some artillery of the Ninth Corps at the Williams house, and can take one of the batteries. As soon as the force reaches the point specified the commander must communicate with General Hancock, who is at Reams' Station on the Weldon railroad.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 25, 1864—2.15 p. m. (Received 2.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have sent the Second and Third Brigades, with the exception of the pickets, numbering about 2,200. They are taken from the square redoubt on the left of the plank road, and all from the left of the plank road to the Strong house. I will send some of the First Brigade to occupy the redoubt, and put the engineer troops to connect with General Ferrero if it meets your approbation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General.

—

REPLIED.—You have stripped the left too much. Put the supports of the pickets on the left in the intrenchments; halt some part of the force in the large redoubt until the troops you are sending there get to it. The engineer troops will go at once to the intrenchments on the left of the plank road, and will be sufficient to hold them. I will send headquarters guard for a part of your second line.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 25, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Yours of 2.35 p. m. received. I have ordered 250 men from the line on the right of the plank road to occupy the redoubt. A small reserve is in the intrenchments to the left of the plank road, which, with the engineer troops, will, I think, be sufficient to hold them. Will the engineer troops report soon?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

The commanding officers of the Second and Third Brigades will have their commands under arms, ready to move at a moment's notice in any direction, with the exception of their picket-line.

By command of Brigadier-General Mott:

JOHN HANCOCK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER THIRD BRIGADE:

The brigadier-general commanding directs that you take all your available force at once, leaving the picket-line, down the plank road to the intersection of the Reams' Station road. You will find some artil-

lery of the Ninth Corps at the Williams house and can take one of the batteries. As soon as the force reaches the point specified you must communicate to General Hancock, who is at Reams' Station, on the Weldon railroad. Colonel McAllister being the senior, he will take command of the Second Brigade also.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—5 p. m.

General MEADE:

Lieutenant Ricketts, of my staff, has just returned from the right of the Second Corps along the railroad. It was all quiet along the road, and but a little skirmishing going on, with an occasional shot from the artillery at Reams' Station.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—8.15 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Major Roebling has just returned from near Reams' Station, saying that the enemy got in between us and the Second Corps just before dark, so that he could get no news. I have completed my lines so that they are now nearly inclosed. I think no effort could drive me away.

Yours, respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—9.50 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you send a staff officer to communicate with General Hancock and ascertain whether he desires re-enforcements, and if he does, that you send General Crawford's division to his support, informing him of the strength of Crawford's division. Parke is similarly directed in respect to White's division. General Hancock is ordered to withdraw to the vicinity of Williams' house, so as to hold the plank road and look toward your left. Please let the staff officer obtain all the information concerning the last attack and the condition of affairs with Hancock, and telegraph it here upon his return to your headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Since telegraphing you a staff officer has arrived from General Hancock. The commanding general directs that you send Crawford's division to his support at once.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—10.10 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Which way shall I send Crawford—around by the plank road or direct along the railroad?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—10.20 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Crawford will take command of White's division as well as his own. Parke is instructed to that effect. He will also take command of two brigades of Mott's division, about 2,000 strong, which are on the plank road at the intersection of the road from Reams' Station, and take them with him. The enemy broke through Hancock's right. Willcox's division may be sufficient to enable him to drive the enemy back, but he will probably need more re-enforcements.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Send Crawford by the plank road since the railroad near Reams' Station is in the hands of the enemy.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

A dispatch just received from General Hancock informs the commanding general that he will withdraw during the night. As he is now withdrawing and may not need the re-enforcements ordered to him, the

commanding general directs that you halt the division you have sent, and send a staff officer to ascertain whether General Hancock wants the troops to cover his withdrawal. If he does, they will be moved to him; if not, they will be recalled.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff.

(Same to General Parke.)

[Indorsement.]

General Crawford need not send a staff officer, but have Lieutenant Howell go to General Hancock to find out if he wants troops and await Lieutenant Howell's return.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Division commanders will have their commands ready for action at the shortest notice.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—1 p. m.

General GRIFFIN:

The battery on the road looking south from the left of your line ought to have arrangements made so that it can be covered on its right flank and at the same time be able to fire to the right if necessary. Will you please have that attended to?

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—11 p. m.

General GRIFFIN:

The enemy broke in on General Hancock's right to-night near Reams' Station, so as to cut off our communication from here with him. Our cavalry still hold nearly down to that place, and will remain on our flank. General Meade has directed me to send General Crawford with his force by way of the plank road to-night. Willcox's division has already gone, and White's division goes with Crawford. I shall have to depend upon your two divisions and the artillery to hold this place. I think a single rank behind the breast-works is amply sufficient to do so, and wish the troops so disposed at daylight, putting in reserve all that can be withdrawn. General Griffin will mass his troops convenient to his left and center, and General Ayres near his present headquarters. All provost guards will be put in the line behind the intrenchments, and whatever men (no matter what duty they are on) that can be made available with muskets. The enemy may attempt to get between us and the plank road, in case Hancock falls back to the plank

road, and then we shall have to fight in that direction. A comparatively small slashing and breast-work only is required to enable us to close our lines on that side. I wish to put all the axes I have with the men of the reserve force early in the morning to make it. I have already determined where it is to be. Captain Cope will report to General Griffin at 4 o'clock in the morning to direct any working party that General Griffin may furnish.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Same to General Ayres.)

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Brigade commanders will hold their commands in readiness to move at 4 o'clock to-morrow morning. The slashing parties will assemble at headquarters First Brigade at 4 o'clock to-morrow morning. All provost guards and pioneer parties will be held ready to put behind the breast-works in case of an action. A staff officer from these headquarters will be at First Brigade headquarters to give direction to any working parties.

By command of Brigadier-General Griffin:

W. S. DAVIS,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—11 a. m.

General AYRES:

GENERAL: Will you have the picket-line of General Bragg's brigade replaced by those at present under your command.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—2.40 p. m.

General AYRES:

Please send out at once and relieve General Willcox's pickets. His division is all wanted in reserve.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

I sent out the men according to this order. General Potter had already relieved the pickets of Willcox. As my line runs around the palisades it is very long. Shall I relieve the pickets sent out by General Potter?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Lieut. G. L. CHOISY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: The officer sent by me to remain on my picket-line through the night to observe and report, states that he heard frequently, after midnight, wagon trains of the enemy moving in our front toward the right of our line.

Very respectfully, I am, sir, your most obedient servant,
CHAS. P. STONE,
Colonel Fourteenth Infantry, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 25, 1864—10.30 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

You will immediately proceed with your division back to the Temple house, thence south on the plank road to the road to Reams' Station, and then along that road to the support of General Hancock. You will have command also of General White's division, which, I believe, will join you here, and also two brigades of Mott's division, now at Williams' house. The enemy broke through Hancock's right to-night. Willcox's division may be sufficient to enable him to drive the enemy back, but he will probably need more re-enforcements.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 25, 1864—11.15 p. m.

Brigade commanders and the commanding officer of the Ninth Massachusetts Battery will have their commands in readiness to move immediately.

By command of Brigadier-General Crawford:
GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 25, 1864—12 p. m.

Brigade commanders will allow their troops to lie on their arms until further orders.

By command of Brigadier-General Crawford:
GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 25, 1864—11.40 p. m.

Brigadier-General BRAGG,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The general commanding desires you to take command of the First Brigade (Colonel McCoy), in addition to your own brigade, during the movement now in contemplation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

General Hancock reports, at 11.20 a. m., that some force of the enemy has passed around his left and broke through Gregg's line, running from the Weldon railroad to the plank road. Gregg is looking after them, but you had better caution all your command to get under arms. If you have anything about the Williams house, see to it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

I understand General Meade has just left your headquarters. Will you send him the substance of the dispatch I sent you? Say Warren was notified by Hancock, and that I have notified Mott to get all his command under arms and be ready with it or the larger part of it to move in any direction. Have informed him of Hancock's dispatch. I have notified Kautz and have ordered all the cavalry here under arms to send to the plank road.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Headquarters Ninth Corps:

I have directed Mott to send some troops down the plank road to protect Hancock's rear, which is threatened by the enemy's cavalry. I have directed him to take one of your batteries now at the Williams house. Please give the necessary orders on this point, and get White and Willcox ready as soon as you can for immediate movement.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—1.45 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual transpired on my front during the night nor up to this time. The slashing in the front has been continued. Two batteries are being constructed in my front. I now hold about two miles and a quarter of line. The Fourth Division on the right occupies 2,600 yards. The Second Division (Potter's) is now relieving White's (the First), and will hold the rest of the line. This will give me Willcox and White free to move.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General PARKE:

You will please order Willcox at once to move down the plank road and take position on that road at the forks of the road to Reams' Station. This is, I believe, near a place called Chay's or Cay's [Shay's] Tavern. There are several roads leading to Reams', but I refer to the first main or practicable road below the Williams house. He can take three batteries with him. Let him communicate and report to Hancock when he arrives there.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—10 p. m. (Received 10.20 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding desires that you send a staff officer to communicate with General Hancock and ascertain if he desires reenforcements, and if he does, that you send White's division to his support. Inform him of its strength. Warren is similarly directed in respect to Crawford's division. General Hancock is ordered to withdraw to the vicinity of the Williams house. Request the staff officer to obtain all the information concerning the last attack and the condition of affairs with Hancock, and telegraph it to these headquarters upon the return of your staff officer.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Since my dispatch of 10 p. m. a staff officer has arrived from General Hancock's headquarters. The commanding general directs that you send White's division to Hancock's support at once. Crawford will take command of White's division as well as his own.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—10.50 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

We have been hearing an unusual amount of picket-firing on our right. Thinking it in front of Ferrero [I sent] to him, but his staff officer [says] it [is] not on his front, but still farther to the right.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
August 25, 1864—2.30 p. m.

General WARREN:

I have 125 men on picket immediately on your right, belonging to Willcox's division, and apparently covering your front. Can you conveniently relieve these men, as Willcox is under orders for immediate movement?

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—2.45 p. m.

General PARKE:

I have just sent word to General Ayres to relieve Willcox's skirmishers.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

General WARREN:

Have you any news from Hancock?

PARKE.

AUGUST 25, 1864—6.10 p. m.

Major-General PARKE, *Commanding Ninth Corps:*

General Warren is temporarily absent. Nothing has been received from General Hancock since the heavy firing began.

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
August 25, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I have been directed to send White's division to the support of General Hancock. The dispatch states that Crawford will take command of White's division as well as his own. Please inform me where Crawford may be found in order that White may report to him.

JNO. G. PARKE.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 25, 1864—10.45 p. m.

General PARKE:

You had better send a staff officer to me to find out where General Crawford is.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

P. S.—No other news except that General Meade says the enemy broke through Hancock's right. Willcox's division may be sufficient to enable him to drive the enemy back, but he will probably need more re-enforcements.

G. K. W.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—1.10 p. m.

Brigadier-General POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: I wish you to relieve General White's division, both on his main line and picket-line, and also make arrangements to relieve the picket line of the Third Division. Please have a sharp lookout kept in your front and report as soon as possible the state of affairs in your front. Please hold your men in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
Reams' Station, August 25, 1864—4.30 p. m.

General WILLCOX,
Commanding Division, Ninth Corps:

For security here I wish you would march your division, with perhaps a battery of artillery and no wagons, to this point rapidly. Look out for both flanks when you arrive near me, if you hear any firing in the neighborhood.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—6.15 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Division, Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: Major-General Hancock directs me to say that he has decided to send out a force toward the enemy's supposed position at the fork of the stage and Reams' Station roads, to ascertain whether any infantry is in our front, and, if possible, to drive away the enemy's cavalry, in order to give us earlier information should any considerable force advance. The general will give you a good brigade of infantry with all of your own force you can get together, and wishes you to arrange the necessary preliminaries before he sees you. He will be at your headquarters during the course of an hour.

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 25, 1864—8.45 a. m. (Received 9.15 a. m.)

Forwarded for the information of Lieutenant-General Grant. I think this is Pickett's division going to take Mahone's place.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 25, 1864—8.20 a. m.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports that at 8 a. m. fourteen cars heavily loaded with troops passed the Junction toward Petersburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

B. F. BUTLER.

IN THE FIELD, *August 25, 1864.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

I am about to go North, by leave of General Grant, to probate my brother's will, which cannot be done without my personal presence. There are matters of business connected with my command and the exchange of prisoners which will require me to visit Washington. Have I permission to do so?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 25, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding, &c.:

The enemy made a charge on our picket-line early this morning, because of the information of some deserters who went over last night saying that our troops were all moving away. Thereupon General Pickett is reported saying that he wanted to straighten his line near Ware Bottom Church, and made a charge for that purpose with a very strong skirmish line. For the moment our pickets were pressed back, but they recovered and charged in return, and retook all our own picket-line and part of theirs. The loss of the enemy is pretty large. Ours I have not yet learned, but it is trifling. We have captured fifteen prisoners.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 25, 1864—12.30 o'clock.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Birney reports that he has re-established his picket-line, which was forced back by a charge from the enemy; that in a charge in return he has taken 50 prisoners—two commissioned officers. We have also five deserters. Our loss in killed and wounded is trifling. It was a plucky little affair on the part of General Foster. As all seems to be going right now I will, at 2 o'clock, start North. A telegram will reach me at Willard's, or at the Fifth Avenue, New York, if you should desire to communicate with me. I have turned over the command to General Ord, the senior, during my absence.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 25, 1864—8.06 p. m.

Colonel BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, City Point:

General Birney's report of the attack on his line this morning shows our loss as 1 killed, 16 wounded, and 14 missing. The enemy's loss in killed and wounded must have been more than double our loss, as they attacked us in our rifle-pits. We captured 61 prisoners.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

MEMORANDUM ORDER.] IN THE FIELD, *August 25, 1864—1 p. m.*

During the temporary absence of the commanding general the command of the Department and Army of the James will be devolved upon Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord, commanding Eighteenth Army Corps.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 25, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel HOWARD,
Chief Quartermaster, Bermuda Landing:

The Eighteenth Corps has moved to north side of the Appomattox.

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 25, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The following dispatch has just been received and is respectfully forwarded:

BATTERY NO. 3, *August 25, 1864—8.30 a. m.*

Captain N[ORTON]:

The firing has ceased. The enemy hold part of our pits in woods to our left of Battery 3. General Foster has just sent a force to retake them.

BAKER,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

Respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

GENERAL: I would respectfully state that picket-firing has been reported along our whole line from right to left, and appears to have been commenced by our own men.

Respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 25, 1864—3.55 p. m.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER, *Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The following rebel message was intercepted from the Archer house station:

HEADQUARTERS PICKETT'S DIVISION,
August 25, 1864—2 p. m.

General BEAUREGARD:

I have felt the enemy's line in my front and discover them in force along my line.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General, Commanding.

Respectfully,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

(Copy to General Grant.)

BATTERY 3, *August 25, 1864—4.25 p. m.*

Captain NORTON:

The enemy opened with one heavy gun. We are replying.

BAKER,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 233. HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., *In the Field, Va., August 25, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

VI. Brigadier-General Ames, with his division, will relieve the colored troops now stationed near the signal tower. These colored troops, upon being relieved by General Ames' division, will relieve all the colored troops now serving with Major-General Ord. The colored troops now serving with General Ord, upon being relieved, will relieve General Foster's command at Deep Bottom.

* * * * * * *

XVI. The Second Regiment New Hampshire Volunteers will be sent without delay to relieve the regiments of 100-days' men now at Fort Pocahontas. The latter regiments, upon being relieved, will be placed en route for Washington, D. C., preparatory to being sent home to be mustered out. Quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

XVII. The brigade consisting of the Twenty-third, Twenty-fifth, and Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers, and Ninth New Jersey Volunteers, will be sent to North Carolina, reporting to Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer, commanding District of North Carolina, who will order the One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Volunteers, and the Ninth Vermont Volunteers, to be sent to Bermuda Hundred, to report to Major-General Ord, commanding Eighteenth Corps. Two of the first-named regiments will be sent first, and the transportation which takes them will bring back the One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Volunteers; then the next two regiments will be sent, and the same transportation bring back the Ninth Vermont Volunteers. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation, and the movements will be made as promptly as possible.

* * * * * * *

XIX. The detachment of Ohio 100-days' men, at Bermuda Landing, will, as soon as relieved by a company of the First New York Volunteer Engineers, together with the detachment of the same regiment now at City Point, be placed en route for Washington, preparatory to being mustered out. Quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 25, 1864—5.40 a. m. (Received 6 a. m.)

General BIRNEY:

If the enemy are in earnest you will next hear of them on your left. Look to that a little.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

It was reported to me, between 1 and 2 a. m. to-day, that only 700 of the 1,800 that started yesterday to relieve Ames reported; the rest straggled on the road, so that I did not relieve Ames. I will order such as were relieved to be forwarded at once. General Meade informed me yesterday he had positive information that Mahone was to relieve Pickett, and I concluded the force in my front to be Pickett's. Shall I send General Ames, now, out of the trenches?

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 25, 1864—6.40 a. m.

General BIRNEY:

Forwarded for the information of General Birney.

Do you think that it is necessary to bring Ames out of the trenches? What could cause so much straggling?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

I only wish Ames to consummate the exchange. I feel quite confident of holding my front with my present force.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 25, 1864—8 a. m.

General BIRNEY:

Ord does not like to let Ames go this morning. Must you have him, or, in other words, is the movement in your front over?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department:

In executing my order to charge and retake the line from enemy we captured 30 privates and 2 commissioned officers. This makes, I think, some 50 altogether. My lines are re-established.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

General Foster, commanding Turner's division, reports an attack on his picket-line at several points, but that it has not been forced in.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

We send you three prisoners. During the assault they held for a while a portion of our trenched picket-line. We have retaken all but one point, and will take that. They advanced with a line almost of battle.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 25, 1864—8.45 a. m.

General BIRNEY,
Tenth Corps:

Will any of your corps be sent to relieve part of mine to-day? I should know beforehand and the time to expect them. Of the two brigades of General Terry's division, one 1,000 and the other 800, only 700 arrived during the night in time to relieve a part of General Ames' division. To prevent such straggling in the night is difficult. General Ames, with 1,500 men, is on the road and should cross the Appomattox before 11 a. m. The remainder of his division will march as soon as they can be relieved by General Terry's.

E. O. C. ORD.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General ORD:

Directly General Ames arrives I will send 3,000 men. There must be some mistake as to straggling in Terry's division. These men will reach you by dusk and relieve as many of yours. The enemy made a sharp and determined attack on my advanced line to-day; that will make me careful in changing.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 25, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

General Ames' division has arrived here; you had better order the colored brigade to march.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 25, 1864—11 a. m.
(Received 11.30 a. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY:

What is your loss in this morning's operations?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department:

My losses are trifling in killed and wounded and a few prisoners. The rebels lost severely in wounded and some fifty prisoners. Will send in report as soon as I can get it. Terry has got his command all in trenches now. Have placed several colonels in arrest for the straggling. Will stop it in a little while.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 25, 1864. (Received 11.45 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. D. B. BIRNEY,
Tenth Army Corps:

Have you received special order arranging the movements of the colored troops? It is almost exactly what you mention in your last telegraph to General Butler.

By command, &c.:

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—12.20 p. m.

Major DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have not received the special order, but understand that the colored troops at signal tower have been ordered to Deep Bottom. I understood that a demoralized brigade with General Ord, under General Paine, was to go to Deep Bottom, and that I was to take the signal tower troops with me.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General BIRNEY:

The following dispatch was received from department headquarters:

By a mistake the special order referred to was not sent you. It is as follows: "Brigadier-General Ames, with his division, will relieve the colored troops now at the signal station. These troops, on being relieved, will relieve all the colored troops now with General Ord. The colored troops now with General Ord will relieve General Foster's command."

Respectfully,

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

You will take command of the colored troops mentioned as being now at signal station, and take them with you when you move.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY:

The colored troops now in the command of Major-General Ord are ordered, upon being relieved, to relieve General Foster.

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

I had expected to take the colored regiments near signal tower with me to Petersburg, and that [the] colored brigade with General Ord would go to Deep Bottom. I expect to need them there if General Ord's report of Terry's division is correct.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—3.40 p. m.

General ORD:

All of my colored troops have marched to relieve all of your colored troops that are to march to Deep Botton to relieve Foster's brigade there.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

Have gun-boats been ordered above the pontoon bridge?

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 25, 1864—4.30 p. m.

General BIRNEY,
Tenth Corps:

I have ordered Graham to send up his boats and request Captain Smith to send up boats. It looks as if the rebs intended making an attack on our front.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—6.20 p. m.

General BIRNEY,
Tenth Army Corps:

I telegraphed General Meade to know if his necessities on the left made more men necessary to him, and he replied that he is not posted as to the result of this evening's battle, but as General Hancock has repulsed several attacks to-day he thinks the last must have resulted the same. As Hancock can do no more damage to the railroad he will be withdrawn. For this reason I have ordered General Paine to report to you with his troops (three regiments) as soon as they could be relieved and march over. You can place him where his services will be most needed.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

OLD HEADQUARTERS [EIGHTEENTH] ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY:

Upon reflection I think that 3,000 colored troops are more needed on this front than yours, and shall keep them unless I receive information from General Meade they will not be needed. A severe battle has been going on all evening on our extreme left.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., August 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding Division, Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: I am instructed by Major-General Ord to ask you to reenforce as soon as possible that portion of the line of trenches from which General Ames has been relieved, with the full number of men you intend shall occupy the line. You will also please relieve, as fast as your men come up, that portion of the line occupied by Colonel Fairchild's brigade. The movements will have to be made very carefully in order to prevent drawing the fire of the enemy. Have the men take the bayonets off their pieces, and use all means of concealment in passing along the covered ways and in the trenches. Colonel Fairchild and staff will render you every assistance, and give any information you may desire to facilitate you in relieving the trenches.

I am, general, very respectfully, yours,

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General TERRY,
Commanding Division, Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: I am instructed by Major-General Ord to say that you need not keep your reserve troops formed any longer, but that he wishes you to have your men sleep on their arms in readiness for any night attack, and that you have all your troops under arms half an hour before daylight, in readiness for any emergency.

Very respectfully,

THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 1ST DIV., 10TH A. C.,
No. 105. } *Deep Bottom, Va., August 25, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

II. In obedience to instructions from corps headquarters the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers will proceed to corps headquarters, using all possible dispatch, and report to the assistant adjutant-general, Tenth Army Corps.

III. Col. G. B. Dandy will at once proceed with his command to headquarters Tenth Army Corps. They will move in heavy marching order with shelter-tents, knapsacks, &c.

IV. The commanding officer of the Eleventh Maine Volunteers will at once proceed with his command to corps headquarters. They will move in heavy marching order with shelter-tents, knapsacks, &c.

By order of Col. H. M. Plaisted, Eleventh Maine Volunteers, commanding brigade:

[THOS. F. EDMANDS,]
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General FOSTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to inform you that the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts is ordered to report to you for the purpose of fully manning the three advanced redoubts, the holding of which he regards as vital to the line.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Corps:

The casualties in this division, in the skirmish of this morning, were 1 killed, 12 wounded, 14 missing.

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, August 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. S. FOSTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: General Ord reports that in marching to his headquarters with two brigades, out of 1,800 men General Terry only arrived with 700. This is extraordinary even for straggling. The major-general commanding wishes you in marching over to use extraordinary precautions. Commanding officers of brigades, regiments, and companies should march at rear of their commands. Knapsacks and camp matters can be transported by supply trains, and the division so marched as to keep every man in the ranks. He wishes you to instruct your officers in this matter, and show that the corps can march as well as fight. Major-General Ord makes a very severe report as to the First Division. The column should be, by hourly halts, kept closed up.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—3.10 p. m.

Brigadier-General FOSTER,
Commanding Second Division:

The major-general commanding directs that as soon as your command is relieved by General Ames, you march with it to the late headquarters of the Eighteenth Corps before Petersburg. A staff officer will be sent to conduct you. You will please send word when you are ready to march.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

General FOSTER:

Come on as soon as relieved.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—4.10 p. m.

Brigadier-General FOSTER:

You will not be relieved by General Ames, but will remain on the line until further orders.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Deep Bottom:

Send two more regiments here at once.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Spring Hill:

Be prepared for an attack at any moment.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HATCHER'S, *August 25, 1864—7.40 p. m.*

Colonel SMITH:

I would respectfully suggest the propriety of building a battery in rear of Battery No. 4, to the left of the road and the right of Battery No. 5.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Colored Brigade:

Upon being relieved by General Ames' division, Eighteenth Corps, you will march across pontoon bridge and report to Brigadier-General

Terry, near headquarters Eighteenth Corps. General Ames will relieve your pickets, which will follow you. A staff officer will show you the route. Every precaution will be used against straggling.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—7 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The following telegram just received from General Butler:

Mahone's division has re-enforced Pickett, and the enemy are making attack at Ware Bottom Church. Is Ames on his march?

I answered that—

Only 700 of the 1,800 which started to relieve General Ames' division were reported at 1 a. m. to-day as having arrived, and General Ames' men are not relieved. I shall form those which are not in the trenches, and, if you direct, start them.

Will General Meade give General Butler information as to Pickett's having relieved Mahone in my front?

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—7.25 a. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

Your dispatch just received. We have no deserters or others that give us information of Pickett having relieved Mahone. Probably those were Pickett's troops seen yesterday afternoon moving out of Petersburg toward the intrenchments south of the lead-works.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

The last information we have of Mahone is from deserters from his division on the night of the 23d. He had then returned to his former position in the trenches.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General ORD:

You may send over here as much of Ames' division as you can. Caution him to march so as to prevent straggling. If you can relieve his troops without loss they may as well be relieved. Take measures to pick up the stragglers of Terry's division.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

General BUTLER:

Five of my batteries started last night; 1,500 of General Ames' men will start at once, if not countermanded. They were relieved by about half that number.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

Is the whole of your corps to move to the north side of the Appomattox upon being relieved in the trenches by the Tenth Corps? Is the Tenth Corps as strong as the Eighteenth, or stronger?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The Third Division, colored, goes to Deep Bottom north of the James, Ames' division north of the Appomattox, and Carr's division to Spring Hill. The Tenth Corps is stronger than mine.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—2.10 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps.

All the available troops General Mott can scrape together have been sent down the plank road to the intersection of the Reams' Station road, as General Hancock reported the enemy had broken through Gregg's line from the Weldon railroad to the plank road. This leaves General Mott with a very thin line. In arranging for the transfer of your artillery to the north side of Appomattox please hold in mind not to get our contingent batteries into the works to-day or to-morrow.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—2.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Your dispatch of 2.10 p. m. received, and will be attended to.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

General Butler has just sent me word that the command of the department devolves upon me in his temporary absence.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 25, 1864.*

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

I have just received the dispatch to General Pickett which was intercepted by our signal officers. If there is to be any blowing up it will probably be in front of the Eighteenth Corps. The men who are likely to be exposed, however, ought to be notified, so they will not be stampeded. If we can be on our guard when a mine is sprung the enemy ought to be repulsed with great slaughter. Where do you understand from the dispatch the explosion is to take place?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—7.50 p. m.

General MEADE:

In addition to the troops in my trenches I have a reserve of six regiments colored troops, three of them pretty good regiments. If General Hancock is pressed back, or immediate necessity arises for these troops, they are at your service with three days' rations and 100 rounds of ammunition. I think the intercepted dispatch intended to draw our force over to the north side of the Appomattox, where General Birney is in command with 7,500 men, and who is prepared for an attack. If you require my reserve force please send officers to pilot them.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

P. S.—How goes the battle?

E. O. C. O.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 25, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General ORD:

Many thanks for your offer of troops. I shall not need them. The appearance of the enemy in such heavy force will prevent any further destruction of the railroad, and Hancock will be withdrawn to-night within our lines. I have not heard recently from the field, but just before I left he had repulsed several vigorous attacks of the enemy, inflicting heavy loss on him. Soon after I left the heavy artillery firing commenced, the result of which has not been reported. Willcox's division, Ninth Corps, was near Hancock, moving up to his support when I left. I have no doubt he has punished the enemy severely, and

am only sorry I have to withdraw him, as our boys like nothing better than to get the rebels to charge their breast-works. I don't understand Beauregard's dispatch. Hoke has only one division. It looks as if it was intended as a blind.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 25, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General ORD:

The following is from the signal officer at Spring Hill, timed 4.45 p. m.:

Fourteen cars, partly loaded with troops, just passed the Junction toward Richmond.

SIMONS,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General ORD:

The rebel dispatch I sent you indicates that they intend attacking on this front. I have requested gun-boats to go up Appomattox. I have sent all the information I have received to General Birney for his information. General Butler being absent, you are in command. I will forward you all information I receive.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—5 p. m. (Received 5.20 p. m.)

Colonel SHAFFER:

Warn the troops upon any point of the line likely to be mined. Place strong reserves with artillery in rear of such points. Have the men and guns in the advance work likely to be mined withdrawn under cover of a second line. The colored troops on the way here will be sent back, except a garrison for the fort at this end of the pontoon bridge. General Birney will be notified by you to remain in charge between the James and Appomattox.

ORD,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

General BIRNEY:

I send the following [above] dispatch for your information and instruction.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864—6.25 p. m.

Colonel SHAFFER:

From the best information you have where do you suppose General Pickett to be?

ORD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 25, 1864—6.55 p. m.

General ORD:

I have no doubt he is on this front near the left of our line.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 25, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General ORD:

Pickett's division and Thomas' brigade of Georgia troops are known to be on this front. I cannot, however, see where they could possibly have a mine on this front unless under one advanced redoubt we have. Possibly the mine may be on south side Appomattox. General Birney will be fully prepared for them here.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Maj. THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Eighteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to state that our lookouts report no movements of the enemy visible in our front.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. CARR,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. B. CARR,
Commanding Division:

Major-General Ord directs that you be prepared for assault at a moment's notice, and have your reserves under arms at once.

Very respectfully,

S. S. SEWARD,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. B. CARR, *First Division:*

I am instructed by Major-General Ord to say that you need not keep your reserves formed any longer, but that he wishes you to have your troops sleep on their arms, in preparation for any night attack. Half an hour before daylight to-morrow you will have all your troops under arms and ready for any emergency. You will also have 100 rounds of ammunition per man on your side of the creek, in order that you may suffer no inconvenience in case of a rain. Your troops that have been in reserve in rear of General Ames' front have been relieved and ordered to report to you.

Very respectfully,

THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General CARR,
Commanding First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Major-General Ord directs me to say that he expects your command to be relieved to-night, and he desires you to take the necessary steps and to march your division, train in advance, across the Appomattox. Your division is to relieve General Foster's, late General Turner's, division. You will send a staff officer at once to the place occupied by the division, to learn the localities and select camps and quarters. I shall probably relieve the men in your trenches by colored troops now on this side the Appomattox. Please report at these headquarters in person as soon as you can, for further instructions.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. B. SHARPE,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FIRST DIV., EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Brigade commanders will have their troops sleep on their arms to-night, in readiness to meet any attack that may be made. Half an hour before daylight to-morrow morning the troops will stand to their arms in readiness for any emergency. Brigade commanders will also see that their commands are supplied with fifty rounds of ammunition per man.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. B. Carr:

J. JOHNSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FIRST DIV., EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Brigade commanders will hold their commands in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. B. Carr:

J. JOHNSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: General Ord wishes you to march your men through the ravine or valley a little to the left of his headquarters, and all the way to cover them, if possible, from the enemy. Relieve your division this morning from the trenches if you can do so with safety, and march them across the Appomattox as fast as you can do so. Please report as you start. Be careful to prevent straggling.

Respectfully,

S. S. SEWARD,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Hatcher's, August 25, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the three brigades of my command are in line at proper intervals from Battery No. 6, on the right, to the Appomattox River, ready to move to any point at a moment's notice in case they should be called upon to resist an attack.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

Brigadier-General Ames directs me to inform you that his command reached the bridge at 10.40. The command was all up; very little straggling. General Ames intends crossing at once, and will report temporarily to Major-General Birney.

W. H. ABEL,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General AMES,
Commanding Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Brigadier-General Birney's command is ordered to return to the intrenchments. He will take position on the left, relieving your force, so that you can have ample reserves for the exposed points near the center.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General AMES:

General Ord has countermanded the order for Birney's brigade to come back. Colonel Grubb, commanding Spring Hill, reports a rebel column moving toward our front (Battery 3, old).

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., August 25, 1864.

Col. E. WRIGHT,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: I am directed by the general commanding to inform you that your command will be relieved to-night as soon as it is dark enough to do it with safety. You will send two staff officers to these headquarters to conduct the colored troops, who are to relieve regiments of your command, to their position on the line. You will cause your camp to be struck, wagons loaded and moved to the rear of division headquarters in the open space, and see that your command is ready to be put in motion as soon as relieved, when you will form your brigade in the rear of division headquarters. On the march the trains will precede the columns. Every precaution will be taken to prevent straggling. Company and regimental commanders will march in the rear of their respective commands. The rear guard will march in the rear of the brigade to urge forward all stragglers. You will march in the rear of your command, accompanied by the senior medical officer, who will allow none to leave the ranks or be put upon ambulances, unless their condition absolutely requires it. Your assistant adjutant-general, accompanied by an orderly, will move at the head of the column to receive orders for the general direction of the troops. You will allow the column to rest for ten minutes occasionally, being careful to notify your command of the length of the rest, and also being careful to select open ground where there are no trees nor bushes, so that none may be left behind asleep and be overlooked.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SOLON A. CARTER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—If you have employment for your staff officers, officers from these headquarters will put the troops in line.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., August 25, 1864.

Col. E. WRIGHT,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: By direction of the general commanding you will have your command formed as soon as possible after being relieved in the

immediate vicinity of your own headquarters. You will see that they are supplied with seven days' rations and 100 rounds of ammunition upon their person. Division headquarters will be there in a short time.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SOLON A. CARTER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 26, 1864—10 a. m.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

I have no report of casualties yet from operations yesterday near Reams' Station. Orders were given during the day for General Hancock to return, but, being pressed by the enemy, he could not do so until night. Frequent assaults were repulsed, but just before night the enemy carried one point of the line and captured eight pieces of artillery. The staff officer, who gives the only report I have, thinks the enemy were very severely punished, and that our loss in prisoners will be small. During the night General Hancock returned to his place in line without opposition. Yesterday morning the enemy drove in General Butler's picket-line. The picket guard soon rallied, however, drove the enemy back, and re-established their lines. The result was 1 killed, 16 wounded, and 14 missing on our side. Two commissioned officers and 59 men were captured from the enemy. What their casualties were in killed and wounded we do not know.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 26, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Hancock's troops were withdrawn without molestation or being followed. He is now near the Williams house. He reports his command at present unserviceable. A report from General Gregg, commanding cavalry on Warren's left and Hancock's rear, reports the enemy pressing his pickets a little this morning with a view, he thinks, of picking up stragglers. Warren's and Parke's troops have returned to their former position, and every preparation has been made to meet any further offensive movements of the enemy. All else quiet.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 26, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General GRANT:

A safeguard that was left on the battle-field remained there till after daylight this morning. At that time the enemy had all disappeared, leaving their dead on the field unburied. This shows how severely they were punished, and doubtless hearing of the arrival of re-enforcements they feared the result to-day if they remained.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Since sending my last dispatch I have conversed with the safeguard referred to. He did not leave the field till after sunrise. At that time nearly all the enemy had left, moving toward Petersburg. He says they abandoned not only their dead, but their wounded also. He conversed with an officer, who said their losses were greater than ever before during the war. The safeguard says he was over a part of the field, and it was covered with the enemy's dead and wounded. He has seen a great many battle-fields, but never saw such a sight. Very few of our dead; nearly all of the enemy. All of our wounded are brought off, but our dead unburied. I have instructed Gregg to make an effort to send a party to the field and bury our dead. I should judge, from all accounts, the enemy will most likely be quiet for some time.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 26, 1864.

Colonel BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Following rebel signal message was intercepted by our signal officer at the Miles house lookout at 11 a. m.:

AUGUST 26, 1864.

General PICKETT:

Hoke's mine failed to explode from some nameless cause in the gallery. It will be tried again soon. Have your re-enforcements arrived?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[J. W. SHAFFER.]

[Indorsement.]

1 P. M.

Forward to General Meade at General Hancock's headquarters or at headquarters of Ninth or Fifth Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 26, 1864.*

General MEADE:

The signal dispatch intercepted is evidently a hoax, as was the one intercepted yesterday, to blind us from some really intended attack. To-day I suspect it will be against Warren.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 26, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

I think the chances are that Warren will be attacked in rear this afternoon by the same force that attacked Hancock yesterday. There will be probably a demonstration on his front by all the force now occupying the lines in his front. If Warren can prepare for both a front

and rear attack the enemy will be most severely handled. The cavalry ought to watch the enemy well and give full notice of the direction from which he comes, and when they are forced back into our lines they should fight on foot with our infantry. If Warren can be further re-enforced by putting Hancock's men on the line and relieving some now there, it ought to be done. I give this as my view from the intercepted dispatch of Beauregard.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864—2 p. m.

General GRANT:

I have just received your dispatch in reference to an attack upon Warren. All you suggest has been done. Warren is prepared, and Gregg's cavalry is well out watching all approaches. I have sent you the information by the safeguard, showing you how terribly the enemy was punished yesterday, and that they retired last night to Petersburg, leaving their dead and wounded on the field. This may be owing to their intention to attack at some other point, but I don't think it will be on Warren. Previous to your dispatch I had directed Hancock to relieve Ferrero's division of colored troops, not to increase Warren's defensive force, but to use these troops in the construction of Warren's redoubts, as they work so much better than the white troops, and save the latter for fighting.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 26, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The usual quiet has prevailed along the lines to-day. This p. m. signal officers reported the movement of considerable bodies of the enemy (artillery and infantry) passing the lead-works into Petersburg, some turning apparently to the left, or the enemy's right. This was undoubtedly the force that attacked Hancock yesterday, returning to their intrenchments. The following disposition of troops will be made to-morrow: The Second Corps, one division in the trenches from the left of the Tenth Corps to the Strong house, with one division in reserve on the Jerusalem plank road and one division in reserve in rear of the point of junction of the Second and Tenth Corps; three divisions of the Ninth Corps on the line between the Strong house and the right of Fifth Corps; the Fourth Division, colored, in reserve at the Gurley house, to be employed in constructing the field-works to be built to strengthen the line; three divisions of the Fifth Corps on the line crossing the Weldon railroad and extending down that road to the Perkins house; a fourth division in reserve. By this arrangement each corps has a reserve which can, in case of emergency, be concentrated at any point threatened. Major-General Birney, commanding Tenth Corps, has reported part of his corps being in the trenches occupied by the Eighteenth; the balance to relieve part of the Eighteenth.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 26, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

You are authorized at all times, until further orders, to assume command and direct the movements of all troops operating against Petersburg south of the Appomattox.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

(Copy to General Ord.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 26, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

I send you part of McEntee's report of statement of prisoners as to the force of the enemy against Hancock yesterday.* The cavalry on the enemy's right is W. H. F. Lee's division, composed of Chambliss' (old), Barringer's, and Dearing's brigades, and Butler's division (Hampton's old), composed of Young's, Rosser's, and Butler's brigades. There is, besides, a small brigade commanded by Colonel Gary. Some two or three regiments of cavalry have been left off on north side of James. Hampton commands all the cavalry, and has been promoted to be lieutenant-general.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 26, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Ask General Hunt if he cannot spare one or two batteries for Hancock to use near the Williams house. I think there are some of the Ninth Corps which are available; if he takes them let him notify Parke of it.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 26, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: On examination of about thirty prisoners of war I find the troops in front of General Hancock yesterday to have been as follows: Wilcox's division entire. Thomas' brigade, of Wilcox's division, has been exchanged for Anderson's brigade, of Field's division (said to be on account of some disagreement between Generals Field and Anderson). Kirkland's and Cooke's brigades, of Heth's division, and Sanders' and Mahone's brigades, of Mahone's division. The balance of two

* See McEntee to Humphreys, second, *post.*

last named divisions are still lying in the trenches in front of Petersburg. I also find some changes in the organization of the enemy's cavalry. General Hampton has been promoted to be lieutenant-general, and is in command of the whole cavalry force, which is now organized into three divisions, commanded respectively by General Fitz Lee, General W. H. F. Lee, and General Butler. General Fitz Lee has Wickham's and Lomax's brigades, and is now in the Valley with his force. General W. H. F. Lee has Davis' (Chambliss' old), Barringer's, and Dearing's brigades. Dearing's brigade is composed of Fourth North Carolina, Seventh Confederate, and Second Georgia Regiments. Butler's division is composed of Young's, Rosser's, and Butler's brigades. Butler's brigade is composed of Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth South Carolina Regiments; came here from South Carolina last May. First and Second South Carolina, of Young's brigade, relieved the three latter regiments on the coast of South Carolina. There is also a brigade of cavalry not attached to a division, commanded by Colonel Gary, and composed of Twenty-fourth Virginia, Seventh South Carolina, and Hampton's Legion. With the exception of the two brigades with General Early, and perhaps two or three regiments left north of the James, I think all of the above mentioned cavalry are on the enemy's right, near Stony Creek.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. MCENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 26, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point, Va.:

The troops in front of General Hancock were Wilcox's division entire. Anderson's brigade, of Field's, has been exchanged for Thomas', of Wilcox's, which may have given Davenport impression that Wilcox was there. Cooke's and Kirkland's, of Heth's, and Mahone's and Sanders', of Mahone's, were also at Reams'. The balance of the two latter divisions were left in trenches in our front. All their cavalry under Lieutenant-General Hampton, save Wickham and Lomax, were also at Reams'. There may be two or three regiments of cavalry north of James, but the brigades are represented here.

J. MCENTEE,
Captain.

CITY POINT, *August 26, 1864.*

Lieutenant MANNING,
General Butler's Staff:

LIEUTENANT: The troops which fought Hancock were Wilcox's division entire, Cooke's and Kirkland's, of Heth's, and Sanders' and Mahone's, of Anderson's. Thomas' brigade, of Wilcox's, has been exchanged for Anderson's brigade, of Field's. The other brigades of Heth and Mahone were left in the trenches on our front. We think all the cavalry was also at Reams' Station. What do you get?

SHARPE,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 26, 1864—4.15 p. m. (Received 4.25 p. m.)

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Two deserters from Eighth Virginia and Twenty-fourth Virginia, Terry's and Hunton's brigades, report matters unchanged in our front. They know nothing of Mahone, and say no new troops have arrived. One deserter from Sixty-third Tennessee came in from Deep Bottom; says Johnson's old brigade is on the north bank, but knows nothing outside his brigade. Refugee from Richmond reports much dissatisfaction in the city. Women congregate before Jeff. Davis' house and mayor's office, demanding meal, and that great suffering exists. The negro troops taken from Burnside's corps, are treated brutally. He came out of Richmond by the way of Chaffin's farm, and says there are few troops between the city and Deep Bottom. Johnson's battery, with 300 men, across the road from Chaffin's farm, and further below a command of 500 men, North Carolinians, under Colonel Elliott, were the only forces he met.

FRED. L. MANNING,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 26, 1864—6.15 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

The numbers of the enemy on the line of works, lately thrown up, between lead-works and large fort near Weldon railroad, appear less this morning than yesterday. A party of twenty-five were at work on the line joining the works in vicinity of lead-works, but a fatigue party of fifty came out of woods in vicinity of lead-works and the working party, then busy working, joined the fifty and they went down the railroad and disappeared in the woods at the north side of the large fort. All quiet at other points of the enemy's line visible from this station and no changes visible.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
August 26, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Colonel BRENT:

Two steamers have just come above pontoon, 1 p. m., with flags from stem to stern. Three regiments of infantry have just come out of breast-works in open space to left of Cobb's and are going toward the woods in rear of that point. Five six-horse wagons passed Bermuda Hundred road going toward that place. Eighteen six-horse wagons now passing open space going to enemy's front in Chesterfield.

(Same to A. B.)

HEADQUARTERS,
Chesterfield, August 26, 1864—12.45 p. m.

General BEAUREGARD:

So much the better. Only one division arrived yet from Richmond, 11.15.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General, Commanding.

FULLER,
Lieutenant, Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 26, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch should have been received some time since, but just came from plank road station:

At 4.40 p. m. a squadron of cavalry and brigade of infantry came from the left on line of the Weldon railroad and disappeared near lead-works, moving toward Petersburg. Immediately after another column of infantry and one of cavalry appeared, coming from the left on line of Weldon railroad, and took the roads running westward parallel with each other from southeast corner of large fort. The infantry occupied thirteen minutes in passing, and the cavalry eleven minutes. The presence of a large force in the vicinity of the fort is supposed from seeing many men in scattered parties through the day, lounging about.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 26, 1864—5.40 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch received from the signal station near the Weldon railroad under charge of the officer with General Warren:

A column of enemy's infantry, say one division, followed by two army wagons and some pack-mules, has just passed to our right on Squirrel Level road. They were twenty-five minutes passing.

STRYKER.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 26, 1864—6 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 5.30 a column of infantry, about a mile in length, came from our left on line of Weldon railroad and disappeared near lead-works, moving in direction of Petersburg. Another column of infantry, apparently coming from woods in rear of large fort, is halted on road west of new work. I can't see the end of the column.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

AUGUST 26, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

Everything very quiet in enemy's lines all day. Nothing of any nature worthy of report noticed.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

AUGUST 26, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Enemy's signal report:

New tented camp below pontoon bridge on Bermuda Hundred side. Squads of four or five seen moving about in it. Six or seven wagons crossed pontoon bridge and moved toward open space to left of Cobb's.

A. C. JORDAN.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 26, 1864.

The following disposition of troops will be made to-morrow morning, the 27th instant:

1. Major-General Hancock will retain one division of his corps on the plank road in the vicinity of the Williams house. One division will be established in the vicinity of the Avery house. General Mott's division will continue to hold the line it is now posted on.

2. Major-General Parke will relieve Ferrero's division by Willcox's and White's divisions, which will hold the line from the Strong house to Potter's right. Ferrero's division will be established in reserve in the vicinity of the Gurley house.

3. General Gregg's division of cavalry will be posted between the Weldon railroad and plank road; General Kautz's division between the plank road and the James River. General Gregg will receive his directions from these headquarters, and will, besides reporting to it everything important that occurs, communicate to General Warren and General Hancock whatever concerns their respective commands.

4. The chief engineer will proceed at once to the construction of the redoubts proposed for the left of the line on the Weldon railroad, and of the works at Burnt Chimneys and the Strong house. He will call on the commanders having troops in reserve for working parties.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
August 26, 1864—2 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

My troops are now massing near the Williams house. It will be a long time before the stragglers are up and my command organized so as to be serviceable. It has been engaged in one of the severest and most obstinate battles the corps has ever fought. At dark the enemy held only the line they had taken from General Gibbon and General Gregg. I had retaken part of my intrenchments, and would have retaken everything if I had had another brigade at about 6 or 7 o'clock. Unfortunately your note telling me that re-enforcements were ordered up did not reach me till 4.15, and it was 5 before I could reach either Mott or Willcox. General Miles' and General Gregg's commands did particularly well. I lost several guns. The horses had nearly all been shot before the final assault. The line taken from General Gibbon was so close to my only remaining line of retreat that I decided not to imperil Willcox by putting him in after dark, but withdrew my command. It will not be available to-day for any serious work. The

enemy must have suffered heavily. I think my own losses in killed and wounded severe but not great, as I fought under cover principally. Willcox arrived two miles and a half from the field at 7.15.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864. (Received 8 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The following dispatch received about an hour ago:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 26, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding:

GENERAL: The enemy did not follow on my rear last night at all. I did not move from the position held by General Willcox until 12 o'clock. The enemy are pressing my pickets a little this morning—I suppose looking for stragglers. Very many men hid in the woods last night, but they are in motion this morning. One of my regiments, mounted, remained at the swamp, on the left of the battle-field, until 11 o'clock. The enemy did not molest it at all. The line is established as you directed. I have one of my brigades near McCann's, the other on the left of Warren.

Yours, respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864. (Received 9.45 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The attack about 5.30 was probably intended to be a simultaneous one, by Wilcox on my center and Heth on my left. The enemy formed in the woods, placed their artillery in position, and opened a heavy cannonade, lasting about fifteen minutes, and then assaulted Miles' front. He resisted tenaciously, but the enemy broke his line. Some of Gibbon's troops were hurried over to repair the damage, and the enemy only gained a slight foothold. They soon attacked on my extreme left, driving Gibbon's division from its line. His men had been much wearied rushing over to General Miles and back during the repeated assaults. General Gibbon succeeded in forming a second line, and the enemy, who were pressing on with great enthusiasm, were severely checked by the dismounted cavalry under General Gregg, which behaved handsomely. General Miles regained more of his intrenchments, distinguishing himself. All he had to work with were such small parties as could be rallied and formed by staff officers. The fighting was continuous till dark, the enemy being held in check by artillery, dismounted cavalry, and skirmishers. At dark we withdrew, for reasons stated. The chief of artillery reports that he lost about 250 horses. The enemy made no advance up to a late hour last night, holding, as far as could be seen, some of our captured guns with their skirmish line. They must have suffered heavily. My own loss, including cavalry, will perhaps not exceed 1,200 or 1,500, though this is surmise, as the command is not

yet organized. Captain Brownson, of my staff, was mortally wounded, dying during the night. Colonel Walker, assistant adjutant-general, is missing. It is acknowledged to have been one of the most determined and desperate fights of the war, resembling Spotsylvania in its character, though the number of engaged gives it less importance. A few more good troops would have given us a victory of considerable importance. I forward this morning prisoners from Field, Wilcox, and Heth. Major Angel, of my staff, saw and conversed with two prisoners of Mahone's division last night. I do not find them this morning. They said Mahone's division, with the exception of one brigade, was there.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Grant 10.15 a. m.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 26, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps, near Williams' house:

General Hunt will direct Wright's and Durell's batteries of the Ninth Corps to report to you. They are now near the Chieves house. One is a four-gun, the other a six-gun battery, both rifled. They appear to be the only ones available.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 26, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

General Hunt finds the two available batteries of the Ninth Corps that were at the Chieves house have been removed. The Ninth Corps must have with it more batteries than it can use. It has twelve batteries; three of them General Hunt has in position in the intrenchments, leaving nine batteries with the troops of the corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864. (Received 6 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The following dispatch has just been received by signal:

SIGNAL STATION.

Captain TAYLOR:

At 4.45 p. m. a column of enemy's infantry appeared, moving from the south along a road near the Weldon railroad toward Petersburg. The column occupied one hour in passing. About a regiment of cavalry also passed in same direction.

THICKSTUN,
Signal Officer.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864—7 p. m. (Received 7.35 p. m.)

General MEADE:

The ambulances sent from here under a small guard of cavalry proceeded to the Emmons house, which is within say, three-quarters of a mile of the church at Reams', and saw nothing but cavalry vedettes. They picked up seventeen of our wounded on the road and returned.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 26, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I send you copy of dispatch from signal officer on the plank road. The commanding general wishes to know whether the signal officer can be correct in his observation, and if the colors named are really missing from the troops engaged yesterday.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 26, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch received from plank road station:

7.10 P. M.

The column reported halted on road near lead-works consisted of eight regiments, and moved toward Petersburg at 6.30 p. m. They carried five U. S. colors flying. At 6.40 a column of infantry, consisting of about 4,000 men and eighteen pieces of artillery, appeared in vicinity of large fort, and moved toward Petersburg, disappearing near lead-works. The artillery came up from our left on line of Weldon railroad, but I think the infantry came in on road running west from large fort. Enemy are busy mounting guns on new works near Weldon railroad. Ambulance trains passing both ways during the day.

FULTON.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I cannot say positively as to the colors being lost, but have heard of none as yet. Will at once make an investigation of the matter and send report.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864—8.20 p. m.

General MEADE:

General Gregg tells me he did not receive any order from you to-day directing the advance toward Reams'. He is here this evening.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 26, 1864—9.20 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Your telegram of 8.20 just received. I did not send any orders to General Gregg to-day, as I intended you to send them and thought I so expressed myself. An order will be issued this evening directing Gregg to report to these headquarters, but requiring him to notify you of anything occurring on the plank road and Warren of anything on the railroad. I should judge from your dispatch about the ambulances that the enemy's cavalry occupy Reams', in which case Gregg has not the force to dislodge them, and I do not wish to bring on an unequal fight, but he might send a flag of truce and propose to the commander there to send a party to bury our dead.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 216. } *Jones' House, before Petersburg, Va., August 26, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

3. Hereafter no officers of this corps will be assigned to the command of a brigade unless with the approval of the commander of the corps. Whenever an officer succeeds to the command of a brigade by virtue of seniority his name will be reported to these headquarters, with the recommendation of the commander of his division, without delay. A list of the present brigade commanders will be sent to these headquarters, with a statement whether they command brigades by virtue of seniority or not.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

W. P. WILSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864.

It having been understood that several stand of colors were lost on the 25th instant, a report will be made at once as to what regiments in the different divisions are without their colors.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

W. P. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 26, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Inclosed I forward you an order issued at Richmond, August 15, 1864, and is now being distributed to our pickets wherever circumstances will admit it. Where the pickets are near enough they are thrown over; at other places they are left near springs, &c., where the pickets of each army get water.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General.

[Inclosure.]

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 65. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., August 15, 1864.

I. It having been represented to the War Department that there are numbers of foreigners entrapped by artifice and fraud into the military and naval service of the United States who would gladly withdraw from further participation in the inhuman warfare waged against a people who have never given them a pretext for hostility; and that there are many inhabitants of the United States now retained in that service against their will who are averse to aiding in the unjust war now being prosecuted against the Confederate States; and it being also known that these men are prevented from abandoning such compulsory service by the difficulty they experience in escaping therefrom; it is ordered that all such persons, coming within the lines of the Confederate armies, shall be received, protected, and supplied with means of subsistence, until such of them as desire it can be forwarded to the most convenient points on the border, where all facilities will be afforded them to return to their homes.

By order:

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 26, 1864.

[Maj. JOHN HANCOCK:]

MAJOR: In obedience to a verbal inquiry of Major-General Meade this morning at division headquarters, I would respectfully state that this command arrived at the intersection of the plank road and Reams' Station road at 5 p. m. yesterday, where our troops were massed on both sides of the road. At the close of this the head of Willcox's command passed by toward Reams' Station.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. MCALLISTER,
Colonel Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864—3 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Lieutenant Howell has just returned from General Hancock's and informs me that General Hancock's troops will take up position around

the Williams house; that General Hancock informs him that they cannot be depended on for operations early in the morning; that all available troops will be required to protect my left flank. General Willcox's division will cover the withdrawal of the Second Corps. General Mott's division returns to the intrenchments.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864—4.45 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I am anxious to know soon what your views are about General Crawford's remaining here since the report received from General Hancock by Lieutenant Howell, which I sent you.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 26, 1864—5.25 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

In reply to your dispatch of 4.45 a. m. the commanding general says use Crawford for protecting your flank as well as White, and Willcox, also, as soon as he returns. He thinks it probable you may be attacked this morning. He understands the report of Lieutenant Howell to mean that General Hancock did not want Crawford.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I hear nothing of the movements of the enemy this morning. Colonel Stedman sent an officer to report to me and I directed him to feel toward Reams' Station, and push in if the enemy's infantry fall back, but have heard nothing from him.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 26, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding desires that you will be particularly vigilant to-day, and if, upon being attacked, you should need support General Parke will give you White's and Willcox's divisions upon your

notifying him that you need them. He is instructed to that effect. Should he be attacked and need supports, let him have them from Crawford's and other troops.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Copy to Major-General Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 26, 1864—10.45 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

Lieutenant-General Grant has ordered that certain works be constructed along the line occupied by your troops. These works will be constructed under the superintendence of Major Duane, acting chief engineer, and the commanding general directs that on the requisition of that officer you furnish as strong working parties as you can consistently with the safety of the position held by you.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to commanding officer Ninth Army Corps.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have received no information from our cavalry to-day. I have nearly completed an inclosed line at this point, into which General Parke's line can retire if suddenly broken, and the rest might retire toward the plank road. I think no apprehension need be felt for us beyond what is ordinarily possible if we become isolated. As soon as these arrangements are made we will go to work forming a line facing south from here to the Gurley house. I have your dispatch about supporting General Parke, and have seen him.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864.]

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I send you the following, just received:

SIGNAL STATION, *Davis' House, August 26, 1864—7 p. m.*

[Colonel LOCKE:]

At 5.50 p. m. four regiments of enemy's infantry passed to our right on Squirrel road; a general and staff preceded the column, and the escort carried two large flags. The troops were accompanied by a number of stretcher-bearers and followed by one ambulance. At 6 o'clock saw ten wagons; at 6.15 one battery of artillery passed and was followed by a brigade of infantry marching rapidly; at 6.25 a heavy column composed of artillery passed, and continued to fill the road as long as observation was possible. All moved to our right.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864—6.15 a. m.

General Hancock sends me word that he has been withdrawing during the night from Reams' Station to the Williams house, covered by General Willcox's division. His men are very much demoralized and cannot be much relied upon this morning. Lost very heavily in killed and wounded, and nine pieces of artillery. Use every effort to hasten the disposition of our troops, so that we may have a reserve force to meet an attack coming from toward the plank road, and to expedite the slashing of timber and forming a line on that side. I have no knowledge of what this cannonading is that is now going on.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires you to send out early to-morrow morning as many men as you have axes for, to slash the brush in front of the line constructed by Colonel Gregory, and report the number of men sent out for this purpose, so as to enable the major-general commanding to take them into account in the general arrangement of working details.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 26, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that a reliable officer comes in from my picket-line and reports the rebels going at a fast pace, artillery and infantry, along the Squirrel road toward Petersburg just before dark.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 26, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General BRAGG:

A staff officer has been sent out to find the right of General Willcox's line, looking to the forming of a line to meet an attack coming from the plank road. The general commanding directs that you move out your command as soon as this line is ascertained and set your men at work at once slashing timber. Have your men in readiness at once. A staff officer will be sent to move you out.

Very respectfully,

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Willcox has arrived with his division, having covered the withdrawal of General Hancock to the forks of the plank road. He reached a point within a mile of the fight and took a position there, by order of General Hancock, to cover his withdrawal from Reams' Station. The division is now massed in the vicinity of these headquarters.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual has transpired on my immediate front during the past twenty-four hours. Potter's and Ferrero's divisions occupy the line from the Strong house to Warren's right. White's division is in reserve on the left of my line, and Willcox has returned from General Hancock and now massed at the Gurley house. I learn indirectly that the cavalry cover our rear from Warren's left over to the plank road.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864.

I. Until further orders the troops of the corps occupying the trenches will be turned out at 4 a. m. and remain under arms until 5 o'clock, at which hour the rolls will be called and inspections will be made by companies, under the supervision of regimental commanders. All absentees will be noted and reported to brigade commanders.

II. During the day one-fourth of the troops occupying the intrenchments will be under arms with their accouterments on. At night their number will be increased to one-third.

III. The troops in reserve will be paraded daily at 5 a. m. for roll-call and inspection. Absentees will be reported as required in paragraph I.

IV. Brigade commanders will forward to their division commanders daily reports of the strength of their respective brigades.

ROBERT A. HUTCHINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. G. GRIFFIN,
Commanding Second Brigade:

GENERAL: By telegraph from headquarters Army of the Potomac, the general commanding the Ninth Army Corps is directed to use extraordinary vigilance to-day to detect any movement or attempt of the

enemy. You will give orders to your command to insure every precaution and a vigilant lookout on the part of both picket and main line. Any demonstration or movement of the enemy observed will be reported at once.

By command of Brigadier-General Potter:

SAML. WRIGHT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division:

GENERAL: The following is an extract from orders just received from headquarters Army of the Potomac:

Major-General Parke will relieve Ferrero's division by Willcox's and White's divisions, which will hold the line from the Strong house to Potter's right. Ferrero's division will be established in reserve in the vicinity of the Gurley house.

I have directed Generals Willcox and White to relieve your division on the line to-morrow morning. On being relieved you will please move your division and encamp it in the vicinity of the Gurley house. Major-General Hancock is directed to retain one division of his corps on the plank road in the vicinity of the Williams house, and General Gregg's division of cavalry will be posted between the Weldon railroad and the plank road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, *August 26, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

You have permission to visit Washington.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 26, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I think Major-General Birney and Tenth Corps, on this side south of Appomattox, should act in concert with General Meade, and therefore in that matter should be under his orders. I endeavored to see and act, and offered General Meade all my reserves, 3,000, last evening, if needed.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 26, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Birney is bringing to this side over 12,000 infantry to relieve 7,600 of my corps. Of these 7,600 1,600 will go to Deep Bottom, and 2,800 to Spring Hill, south Appomattox, leaving me with 3,200 to

relieve over 10,000. After relieving my front with similar numbers to what I have in the trenches General Birney will have a reserve of about 5,000. Can he not station those at or near his rear and let me take Carr's division, 2,800, to relieve Turner's 4,500? As it is I have no force to relieve Turner's division. There will be but little rest for Ames' division if it has to do all the duty on the peninsula.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 26, 1864.*

Major-General ORD:

You can take any or all of the Eighteenth Corps to relieve the Tenth that may be necessary.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 26, 1864—5.20 a. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Department:

What does the artillery fire mean?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864—5.50 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The firing is nothing more than the usual morning firing replied to by our batteries.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

Have you any important news this morning?

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 26, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Department:

Hancock was withdrawn last night to the Williams house. The fight about dusk was very severe. The enemy got into his breast-works a

one point—a salient—but not at any other. I do not know what his loss was, but it must have been heavy, and that of the enemy greater. Will let you know particulars when they are received.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 26, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General ORD,
Bermuda Hundred:

I hear firing in your direction. Is anything going on?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Same to Major-General Birney.)

GENERAL ORD'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 26, 1864—11 a. m.

General MEADE:

General Ord directs me to reply to your telegram that there has been no firing on his line between James and Appomattox, with the exception of a few guns which amounted to nothing.

GEO. A. KENSEL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 26, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports that "at 7.35 a. m. eleven cars heavily loaded with troops passed the Junction toward Petersburg."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

WATER BATTERY, *August 26, 1864.*
(Received 2.15 p. m.)

Captain NORTON:

The 100-pounder Parrott in the Water Battery has opened on Howlett's. The enemy are replying.

BRUYN,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 26, 1864. (Received 9.30 a. m.)

Colonel ABBOT:

Send three 8-inch mortars to Major Ludlow at Dutch Gap.

By command of Major-General Butler:

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *August 26, 1864—9.45 o'clock.*

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff to General Butler:

Will send the mortars without delay. Please instruct the engineer department to make another magazine at Dutch Gap without delay. That already there was designed only for the 100-pounder gun. Since then I have sent two guns and five mortars; the ammunition is exposed even now more than is safe, especially if the rebels use mortars.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 26, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT:

Beside the magazine for the 100-pounder there is at Dutch Gap one magazine six by six feet, ready to receive ammunition. Will that do?

H. A. VEZIN,
Lieutenant and Assistant Engineer.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *August 26, 1864—1 p. m.*

Lieutenant VEZIN,
Engineer Department, General Butler's Staff:

I think another magazine should be made at Dutch Gap. The demand for more artillery seems to be constant, and there is not even with the new magazine enough for what is now there.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

HATCHER'S, *August 26, 1864—8 a. m.*
(Received 9 a. m.)

General ORD:

There are no signs of any movement on part of enemy in my front. As I am now rather disorganized by present position of my troops, I would like to complete the exchange. General Paine has marched to Deep Bottom.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HATCHER'S, *August 26, 1864.*

General BIRNEY:

Please report by telegraph to me if anything unusual occurs in your front. General Paine left here early this a. m., probably about 1 o'clock. Report if he has arrived. Can you send the whole of Turner's division here to relieve Carr's, without weakening your front too much?

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

AUGUST 26, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

I shall relieve part of Carr's division now in trenches with colored troops on this side, march them across the Appomattox to-night. Was to relieve part of Foster's division—about one-half. I shall move my headquarters this p. m. and take the ground now occupied by yours. You can be ready to start for this side at 5 p. m. Your chief of artillery and the Eighteenth Corps chief of artillery will remain where they now are to place batteries in position as they arrive, and then join their headquarters.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HATCHER'S, *August 26, 1864—2 p. m.*

General ORD,
Eighteenth Corps:

The rest of Terry's division is en route from Deep Bottom. Paine reached there at 11 o'clock. Nothing unusual here. I think you should put Ames and Carr between James and Appomattox. The line is long.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864—2.10 p. m. (Received 2.15 p. m.)

General BIRNEY,
Tenth Army Corps:

General Grant, and I also, think the last intercepted dispatch, about Hoke's mine failing, a hoax. You can, however, make arrangements and be prepared for any emergency north of the Appomattox. I shall start in a few minutes and would like to meet you at General Butler's headquarters.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864. (Received 10.15 a. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS:

The firing is, I think, from Howlett house battery and Water Battery on my old front, Bermuda Hundred.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to inform Major-General Meade that I have assumed command of the line lately under General Ord, and hold myself subject to the orders of General Meade.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 26, 1864—7.35 p. m.

Maj. Gen. D. B. BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

General Meade desires that you will please state in general terms the strength of your troops in line and in reserve and the dispositions you have made of your forces.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864. (Received 8.10 p. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Terry's division is on my left, colored troops in center, and Carr's division, Eighteenth Corps, on my right. My strength I estimate at 9,000. Will make a more formal report and particular statement to-morrow.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864. (Received 8.10 p. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

I have not yet succeeded in getting my corps over. I have only relieved Ames' division with 6,000 of my corps. I will have a brigade over to-night and expect Foster's (late Turner's) division to-morrow. The artillery is the same as to number of guns and position. Will send a field return when the exchange is perfected. Colonel Piper remains with me a few days as chief of artillery. My corps is probably 3,000 stronger than the Eighteenth.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864—8.55 p. m.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding First Division:

The major-general commanding directs that as soon as Colonel Plaisted's command arrives you cause it to relieve a part of General Carr's line.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DEEP BOTTOM, *August 26, 1864.*

Major-General BIRNEY:

Colonel Plaisted has not yet started. He will as soon as his pickets are relieved, probably by 3.30 o'clock.

CHAS. J. PAINE,
Brigadier-General.

DEEP BOTTOM, *August 26, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have just started with the One hundredth New York, Eleventh Maine, and the portion of the First Maryland Cavalry not on picket. General Paine's troops are now relieving my pickets, and they will follow as soon as possible.

H. M. PLAISTED,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864—6.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General TERRY,
Commanding First Division:

Plaisted's brigade is on the march. The major-general commanding desires that you send a staff officer to meet the column and conduct it to you by the shortest route.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 26, 1864—2.20 p. m.

General FOSTER:

At the usual hour for relieving the pickets General Ames will relieve General Foster's pickets. General Foster will remain with his command in position until relieved by General Carr, but will be in readiness to move, and as soon as relieved by General Carr will march his force to the new position near Petersburg.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., August 26, 1864.

General R. S. FOSTER:

GENERAL: I am directed by Major-General Ord to say that you can remain with your two brigades on this side the Appomattox for the present.

Very respectfully,

THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 24. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
Near Hatcher's, Va., August 26, 1864.

Brigade commanders will hold themselves in readiness to move as soon as relieved by troops from the Eighteenth Army Corps. The order of march of this division will be as follows: First Brigade, Colonel Curtis commanding; Second Brigade, Lieutenant-Colonel Coan commanding; Third Brigade, Colonel Osborn commanding.

The commanding officers of brigades will detail a strong rear guard to prevent straggling. To accomplish this end line officers will march in rear of their companies, field officers in rear of their regiments, and brigade commanders in rear of their brigades, seeing personally that their commands are kept well closed up. Canteens will be filled before starting, and no one will be permitted to leave the ranks except for urgent reasons. A limited amount of transportation in excess of that already allowed can be procured from the division quartermaster for the knapsacks of such men as are unable to carry them, thus enabling them to keep up with the column. Let there be no delay when the order to move is received.

By order of Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster:

[J. M. BARNARD, JR.,]
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 80. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
Near Hatcher's, Va., August 26, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. Capt. George W. Gardner, commanding Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, will, so soon as relieved by troops of the Eighteenth Corps, report with his command to Col. F. A. Osborn, commanding Third Brigade, and will be temporarily assigned to that brigade for duty until further orders.

3. By direction of Major-General Ord, the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers will accompany the troops leaving to-night, and when relieved the commanding officer will report at these headquarters.

By order of Brigadier-General Foster:

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
[*August 26, 1864.*]

Major-General BIRNEY:

Colonel Grubb has two 20-pounder Parrotts and 175 men. The First Connecticut Battery, six brass rifled, has just reported here by order of General Ord. Colonel Grubb has seen a rebel column moving toward our front, Battery 3, &c., for the last fifteen minutes, but I cannot make it out.

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 27, 1864—9 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

All quiet on the lines during the night. Some little picket-firing and mortar practice. I forward dispatch from signal officer indicating a return of part of the enemy's troops that were seen to move yesterday p. m.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 27, 1864.*
(Received 9.20 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

I leave here in a few minutes for your headquarters and General Warren's.

U. S. GRANT.

CITY POINT, *August 27, 1864—5.50 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

I leave this evening for Fortress Monroe. Will be back to-morrow night.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

(Same to General Ord.)

CITY POINT, *August 27, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Meigs, quartermaster-general, has informed me that 1,000 cavalry, remounted on fresh-shod horses, are being sent from Washington to City Point. They are commencing to arrive now. Cavalry horses will be received until the whole number required is sent at the rate of 300 per day until all are sent. About 500 have arrived and been issued.

R. INGALLS.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 27, 1864.

Major ECKERT:

Richmond Examiner of to-day says:

Fort Morgan is in the enemy's possession. Whether blown up or evacuated is not known.

About 7.45 last night a rebel operator was discovered on our line near Cabin Point. Said he had orders to cut the line, though it grieved him to do it. He requested the following message be sent North:

ON THE LINE NEAR CABIN POINT, *August 26, 1864.*

WALDO P. GOFF,
Clarksburg, W. Va.:

Your son, Maj. Nathan Goff, jr., was in the Libby Prison, and well, about the 1st of July. His wants have been supplied by Colonel J. and myself. My father and mother are well.

OPERATOR.

Said he knows Major Strickland. He cut line, and left at 8.40 p. m. It was repaired early the next morning. Please inform General Butler about Fort Morgan.

R. O'BRIEN.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 27, 1864—6.25 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE, *City Point:*

Two deserters from Twentieth Georgia came in this morning at Deep Bottom. Say that Anderson and Law, of Field's division, are this side the river, having crossed a few days ago; where, they do not know, but saw them move toward their pontoon bridge. Deserter from in front of Ord's late headquarters, from Thirty-first North Carolina, came in night before last. Says the whole of Hoke's division is there. Deserter from Fifty-third Virginia, in our front, thinks Scales' brigade is there. Says he saw their wagons. Otherwise everything remains unchanged.

FRED. L. MANNING,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 27, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The following dispatch received from station near the Gibbon house:

A detachment of infantry, numbering about 1,500, passed a point southwest by west from this station, moving toward the right. They were preceded by a train of twelve wagons. Stragglers moved with the wagons, but were too distant to tell whether armed or not.

A. C. JORDAN.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 27, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The following dispatch from the plank road station is respectfully forwarded:

7 A. M.

The enemy are still working on new line of works in large force, and are apparently building a large redoubt or fort east of railroad and south-southeast from the fort on the west side of the Weldon railroad. This work is at the termination of their line lately thrown up in that vicinity. The line in our immediate front has been strengthened during the night. Camps also evince more activity. All quiet.

FULTON.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 27, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The following report from the plank road station is respectfully forwarded:

9.30 A. M.

At 8.30 a. m. a column of infantry came from the left on line of Weldon railroad, halted and came to a front, facing this way, east and near the large fort. After remaining half an hour 150 came toward our picket-line, 200 moved toward Peters-

burg, disappearing near lead-works, and the remainder moved back into the woods to the rear of the fort. At 9.10 a. m. a column of cavalry, numbering about 1,100, came from woods to the right and rear of the fort, passed on the east side of the fort, and disappeared on the road going westward.

FULTON.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 27, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch from the plank road station is respectfully forwarded:

At 10 a. m. a section of artillery appeared in vicinity of lead-works and moved toward large fort, disappearing in the woods. At 11.15 a. m. a column of cavalry, numbering 600 or 700, came out of woods on the right of fort near Weldon railroad and moved southward on line of Weldon railroad.

H. W. FULTON.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 27, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following intercepted message is respectfully forwarded:

Colonel BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A brigade of infantry drawn up in line on Gilliam's farm, left resting on Red Bluff. I think they only camped there for the night. Stragglers constantly passing Broadway road toward City Point; a few passing pontoon to Prince George side. I am led to believe there was a considerable movement of troops during the night. All the tents, except three on or near open space to left of Cobb's, have disappeared.

LATER.—The brigade has taken up line of march toward Petersburg. It is composed of five regiments. Stragglers passing open space going toward front in Chesterfield. Gun-boat above pontoon.

STILL LATER.—Eleven regiments passing open space, going toward Cobb's from front in Chesterfield. They were followed by nine wagons, guarded by infantry. A new camp near the pontoon has just been struck. Troops coming toward Bermuda Hundred. Thirteen regiments just passed pontoon, going toward Prince George side; think they are the same that passed open space, except two regiments which came from the camp. These troops were followed by fifty-eight ambulances and seventy-one wagons, straggling guards of infantry and cavalry. Four pieces of artillery came from front in Chesterfield; passed open space going toward pontoon. The troops before reported are now passing Broadway road to Petersburg.

R.,
Sergeant at C.

(Same to A. B.)

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 27, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER:

All quiet. No change since last report.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 184. } *August 27, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

5. The Fifth and Sixth New Jersey Regiments being about to leave this army, their term of service having expired, carry with them the best wishes of the brigadier-general commanding the division. Having taken part in all the battles (with but a single exception) of the Army of the Potomac, and having a record which any organization may be well proud of, he hopes that after having seen their friends at home they will soon return again to remain until this rebellion is crushed and peace and quietness once more prevail throughout the whole Union.

By command of Brigadier-General Mott:

J. H. LOCKWOOD,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 27, 1864.

Maj. JOHN HANCOCK,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Division, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the colored troops on my immediate left were this morning relieved by the First Brigade, Third Division, Ninth Army Corps, commanded by Brigadier-General Hartranft.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. PIERCE,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

DAVIS HOUSE SIGNAL STATION,
August 27, 1864—9.40 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy shows a strong line of men this a. m. loitering behind the works in front of lead-works. About 300 yards left of lead-works I see through an opening in the trees a double line of works, the second about 200 yards behind the first. At intervals through the woods, for a quarter of a mile right and left of lead-works, I can see breast-works thrown up. I do not know whether any of these works have been before reported. I see no guns in any of them, nor any unusual activity of working parties.

Respectfully, &c.,

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain and Signal Officer.

DAVIS HOUSE SIGNAL STATION,
August 27, 1864—9.50 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

About 100 cavalry, with one ambulance, have just passed a point on Squirrel road 300 yards left of lead-works, moving toward our left.

Respectfully, &c.,

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

DAVIS HOUSE SIGNAL STATION,
August 27, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Colonel LOCKE:

9.30.—A column of infantry, about 200 strong, moved to our left on Squirrel road. The enemy have just relieved their pickets on left of railroad. No other movement is visible, except small working parties at different points on their line.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 27, 1864—8 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The following movements have been seen to-day since my report of 9.50 a. m.: At 11.30 a. m. about 100 cavalry passed a point on Squirrel road, 300 yards left of lead-works, moving toward the right; probably the same force that moved to the left at 9.40 a. m. At 3 p. m. a section of artillery passed same point, going to the left. At 5 p. m. about 200 men, with intrenching tools, came outside the works in front of lead-works and passed to the left out of view. At 6 p. m. about 300 men advanced to the front and passed into the woods out of view. I think they were going on picket.

Respectfully,

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 27, 1864—9 a. m.

General AYRES:

GENERAL: I wish you would have your pioneers clear out all the obstructions in the draining ditches in the field where we are now, and good wagon road bridges put over them wherever needed, instead of the filling of rails and earth they now have in places. We must make every effort to secure good drainage in order to prevent sickness.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

(Same to General Crawford.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 49. } HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 27, 1864.

1. Colonel Hofmann's brigade, Fourth Division, having been temporarily assigned to this division, will be designated Third Brigade, Second Division, in future.

By command of Brigadier-General Ayres:

GEO. L. CHOISY,
First Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 27, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual has transpired on my front during the past twenty-four hours. Some little picket-firing occurred in front of the Fourth Division about 9.30 p. m. No enemy has been seen, excepting two or three, probably scouts, about one mile in our front. The First and Third Divisions have relieved the Fourth on the line and it is now going into camp in the vicinity of the Gurley house. I propose moving my headquarters to-day to the vicinity of the Aiken house.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 27, 1864.

General PARKE:

General Meade desires me to withdraw five batteries from your corps. Will you inform Colonel Monroe which ones you wish to retain? Tell him to come and see me to-morrow to make the necessary arrangements.

H. J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 27, 1864.

Colonel MONROE,
Chief of Artillery, Ninth Corps:

Eight guns from your corps are ordered to Baltimore. Send a section each of Eaton's, Rogers', Mayo's, and of Start's batteries to City Point to report to Colonel Bowers, adjutant-general to General Grant. The cannoneers need not go with them. The horses and drivers you will direct to return to their batteries as soon as the guns are turned over at City Point. They will bring back the caissons with them if those are not needed. Rogers' and Start's batteries are with the corps. Eaton's and Mayo's being in the works here, I will give them their orders. I wish you would hurry Rogers and Start. Inform me at once of the receipt of this, and of your action, and report when the sections leave.

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 27, 1864—11.10 a. m.

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general, accompanied by Lieutenant-General Grant, has just left here for General Warren's headquarters, and desires that you will meet him at General Warren's. Please acknowledge.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 27, 1864—11.45 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Dispatch of 11.10 received. Will meet the lieutenant-general and the commanding general Army of the Potomac at General Warren's headquarters.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. SETH WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

In reply to your dispatch of this date, I have the honor to state that on the 24th instant I forwarded you a statement of the casualties in the Ninth Army Corps on the 18th and 19th instant, including both White's and Willcox's divisions, as follows: Killed, 3 commissioned officers and 44 enlisted men; wounded, 22 commissioned officers and 211 enlisted men; missing, 1 commissioned officer and 86 enlisted men; total, 26 commissioned officers and 341 enlisted men; aggregate, 367.

On the 26th, as directed, I forwarded the following report of my casualties on the 20th and 21st instant for the corps: Killed, 9 enlisted men; wounded, 4 commissioned officers and 41 enlisted men; missing, 4 commissioned officers and 132 enlisted men; total, 8 commissioned officers and 177 enlisted men; aggregate, 185.

Consolidated report for the 18th, 19th, 20th, and 21st instant: Killed, 3 commissioned officers and 53 enlisted men; wounded, 26 commissioned officers and 252 enlisted men; missing, 5 commissioned officers and 218 enlisted men; total, 34 commissioned officers and 518 enlisted men; aggregate, 552.*

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 27, 1864.

The orders from headquarters Army of the Potomac requiring that supplies to be carried from the plank road to the Weldon railroad on pack-mules having been rescinded, division commanders are hereby

* But see revised statement, Part I, p. 127.

directed to make all necessary repairs on the roads leading from their commands to the plank road, keeping them in good order without further orders.

By command of Maj. Gen. John G. Parke:

ROBT. A. HUTCHINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 27, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to ask if General Kautz will make his reports directly to headquarters Army of the Potomac and will receive his instructions directly from there? General Kautz's headquarters are still at Lucas', on the Prince George Court-House stage road. Until the present, I have kept one brigade on the Weldon railroad, between General Warren's position and Reams'. The other, which covered the return of the Second Corps from Reams', is on the plank road at Temple's, these brigades connecting their pickets between the plank road and the railroad, and to General Warren's left. I will to-day concentrate my command as directed, which will give me an opportunity of shoeing, and also of feeding hay. The swamp crossing the plank road between Temple's and the Williams house is now full of water suitable for horses. I will select a camp so that my horses may be watered in this swamp.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 27, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG, *Commanding Cavalry:*

I have your dispatch of this morning, informing me that you would concentrate your division as directed. The order of last evening was not intended to direct the concentration of your division, but merely to indicate that it would picket, watch, and hold against the enemy's cavalry a certain part of the flank and rear of the army. The disposition you had made of it was considered judicious. General Kautz will receive his instructions from you and make his reports to you, communicating to these headquarters anything requiring immediate attention from it. This dispatch is not intended to interfere with such disposition of your division or of Kautz's as you may deem best suited to carry out the objects indicated in your instructions, you reporting any changes you may make in the posting of your troops.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND CAVALRY DIV., ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 27, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: This morning I sent a communication to the commanding officer of the cavalry at Reams' Station requesting that I might be

allowed to send burial parties on the field at Reams' Station. The officer commanding the rebel picket north of the station first promised an answer in ten minutes; then, later, stated that an answer would be given in an hour by General Butler. My staff officer waited an hour and a half beyond the appointed time and then returned to my headquarters without an answer. The officer commanding the rebel pickets stated that we had about 200 dead on the field, and of these fifty had been buried, and that small parties were still employed in burying the dead; that all our wounded had been removed save about twenty still in the church at the station.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

There are two of our medical officers with the wounded at the church. The officer stated that these wounded would be removed to-day.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 78. HDQRS. SECOND DIV., CAVALRY CORPS, *August 27, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

2. Col. Charles H. Smith, First Maine Cavalry, having reported for duty, is hereby assigned to the temporary command of the Second Brigade, Second Division, cavalry.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

H. C. WEIR,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 27, 1864—4.50 p. m.

General ORD:

I have just received a signal dispatch that eighteen cars, heavily loaded with troops, have just passed the Junction, en route to Richmond, and sent a copy to General Grant.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 27, 1864.

Major-General ORD:

I hear firing in your direction. Is anything going on?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 27, 1864.

General MEADE:

General Ord directs me to reply to your telegraph that there has been no firing on his line between the James and Appomattox, with the exception of a few guns, which amounted to nothing.

GEO. A. KENSEL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

AUGUST 27, 1864.

Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A small brigade of infantry and eight army wagons have moved toward our right, on the road to Richmond.

CHAS. F. CROSS,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C.,
No. 235. } *In the Field, Va., August 27, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

VII. The Thirty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops will be sent to Wilson's Wharf, James River, and the Tenth U. S. Colored Troops to City Point. Quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

* * * * * * *

XII. Col. E. B. Grubb, Thirty-seventh New Jersey Volunteers, will call in all detachments of that regiment and will then proceed to report to Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney, commanding Tenth Corps.

By command of Major-General Ord:

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDNANCE OFFICE, FORT MONROE ARSENAL,
Old Point Comfort, Va., August 27, 1864.

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Train, Broadway Landing, Va.:

SIR: Your letter of the 23d, with requisition for 100 13-inch mortar shells, was received yesterday, and the shells will be shipped to Colonel Pitkin to-day. With regard to ammunition for siege guns I would state that I shall probably be able to store all that may be received here until you want it. In case I can not do so I will inform you of the fact. Your requisitions for 8-inch shells have all been filled, but I have more on hand which can be sent you if you desire it. The Coehorn mortar ammunition has been and will be sent forward as fast as received.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. EDSON,
Captain of Ordnance, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 27, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY:

The following statement from the provost-marshal-general's office is sent for your information:

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

A deserter from Sixty-first Georgia, Clingman's brigade, Hoke's division, who just arrived here, reports that he left his regiment last night; that they were then lying between City Point railroad and the Appomattox River. He is a Prussian and understands very little English, and knows little of the enemy's organizations, but he seems quite certain that the balance of Hoke's division is lying in the trenches on

the right of Clingman. He says they are Georgia and South Carolina troops. He reports that the enemy had a mine dug in front of his brigade, and that about a week ago it filled with water and caved in. He says it commenced about thirty yards in rear of their works, running parallel with the railroad until it approaches near our lines, when it was turned short to the right. He also explains the use of the tool of which I sent draft several days ago. He says it is used for boring holes in the earth in front of enemy's works, forming listening galleries to guard against our mining. He states that they have a row of holes about ten feet apart all along the front of Clingman's brigade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 27, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

The story of the deserter agrees with our own ideas, and we will be prepared for it. The place selected is a good one for us.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 107. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, August 27, 1864.

1. The troops recently constituting the Third Division of this corps, under Brig. Gen. O. S. Ferry, U. S. Volunteers, having been mustered out of the service, General Ferry will turn over the records and public property belonging to headquarters of the division to Brig. Gen. William Birney, commanding colored brigade, and will also order his staff officers, except his aide-de-camp, to report to him. Brigadier-General Ferry will report for orders to the major-general commanding the department.

2. Colonel Grubb, commanding Thirty-seventh New Jersey Volunteers, will report to Brigadier-General Birney.

3. The Thirty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops, as soon as relieved from their present position, will proceed, via City Point, to Wilson's Wharf and relieve the 100-days' troops now stationed there. The quartermaster will furnish transportation to City Point by rail, if possible.

4. The Tenth U. S. Colored Troops will be relieved by Brigadier-General Birney after dark to-night, and will proceed to City Point, relieving the regiment of 100-days' men on duty there.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 27, 1864.

As soon as the corps is together the line to be defended by it will be divided between Brigadier-Generals Terry, Birney, and Foster, General Terry on the left, General Birney on the center, and General Foster on

the right. Lieutenant-Colonel Jackson, assistant inspector-general, will make the division of line with regard to the number of troops under command of each general, who will be responsible for their lines, as to artillery, pickets, and defense, and as to connections right and left. Each commander will have his troops together with a reserve sufficient to relieve troops frequently from trenches. Three days' rations will be kept on hand, and half-rations whisky can be issued on order of division commanders to troops on fatigue. Weak points should be defended by additional abatis and vigilant pickets and reserves. The artillery must be well supported and its officers continually on the alert, especially at or before daybreak.

By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HATCHER'S, *August 27, 1864.*
(Received 10.35 a. m.)

General ORD:

General Foster wishes to know when you expect him to leave with his other brigades.

THEO. READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 27, 1864.

Major READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Hatcher's:

General Foster will not leave until he is relieved by other troops, either to-night or to-morrow morning.

GEO. A. KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 27, 1864.

General FOSTER:

I will relieve you just as soon as General Carr comes over with his command from the other side of Appomattox. I have so telegraphed General Birney.

ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 27, 1864.

Col. A. A. RAND,
Commanding Fourth Massachusetts Volunteer Cavalry:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that you detail Major Stevens with fifty mounted men to relieve the mounted picket now on duty on the Appomattox River. The men will take with them three days' rations. You will direct Major Stevens to report in person at these headquarters for instructions without delay.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 27, 1864—3.50 p. m.

Col. A. A. RAND,
Commanding Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry:

The major-general commanding directs that you relieve with your command the Thirty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops, now on duty in the front. You will move immediately under the guidance of a staff officer, who will be sent you for the purpose.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., August 27, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL:-Pursuant to your instructions I had the troops of my command in readiness to move as soon as relieved by those of Brigadier-General Carr's division, but previous to the arrival of that officer I received instructions from Major-General Ord not to send from this portion of the line more troops than General Carr brought. Ascertaining that General Carr had but 1,400 men with him, I sent Colonel Curtis' brigade and the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Regiment, in all about 1,500 men, and by direction of Major-General Ord remained in command of the other two brigades of my division. I directed Colonel Curtis to report to you on arrival. General Ames' division and two brigades of General Carr's division are here, and I can see no reason why my command could not all move now, but General Ord's order prevented. I shall use every endeavor to get my other two brigades relieved during the day or to-night, and, if possible, will reach my position before Petersburg during the night. I send this by Lieutenant Barnard, of my staff, who can give you any information regarding my situation.

Respectfully, yours,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

Send a staff officer and let him relieve the rest of Carr's division. It will save him some marching.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 25. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
Near Hatcher's, Va., August 27, 1864.

Capt. P. A. Davis, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, is reannounced on the staff of the brigadier-general commanding. All official communications for these headquarters will be addressed to him.

By order of Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster:

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 81. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS, *Near Hatcher's, Va., August 27, 1864.*

1. Col. W. B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, having reported for duty, will assume command of the Second Brigade, Second Division.

* * * * * * *

By order of Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster:

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 109. } HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Va., August 27, 1864.*

I. Brig. Gen. J. B. Carr will, with his division, occupy the right of the line of defenses, extending from the James River to Battery No. 5. One brigade should occupy the space on the left of the line from Battery No. 5 to about 200 yards to the right of Battery No. 3, and the other brigades extended according to the strength of the line occupied, his pickets covering his front on the picket-line extending to the left as far as where that line crosses a ravine in front of Battery No. 7.

II. Brig. Gen. A. Ames will, with his division, occupy the left of the line of defenses, extending from General Carr's left to the Appomattox River, arranging his brigades so as to cover the most exposed parts of the line with a heavy force. His pickets will take the picket-line from General Carr's at the crossing of the ravine in front of Battery No. 7 to the Appomattox River.

III. Each division commander will appoint for his division a permanent chief of outposts and pickets who will attend to posting the division pickets and visit them at such times as may be directed. The picket duty is of vital importance, and all officers and men are expected when on such duty to attend to it, as when in turn they are off picket their safety and quiet depends on the vigilance of those on picket. These latter should never be surprised or stampeded.

IV. Infantry will be detailed to support the artillery in redoubt in front of each division by the respective commanders of such divisions.

V. Regular parade, drills, and roll-calls will be resumed, proper calls being sounded. Bands when practicing will be sent to the rear.

By command of Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord:

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 82. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES, *City Point, Va., August 28, 1864.*

I. Hereafter deserters from the Confederate Army who deliver themselves up to the U. S. forces will, on taking an oath that they will not again take up arms during the present rebellion, be furnished subsistence and free transportation to their homes if the same are within the lines of Federal occupation. If their homes are not within such lines they will be furnished subsistence and free transportation to any point in the Northern States. All deserters who take the oath of allegiance

will, if they desire it, be given employment in the quartermaster and other departments of the army, and the same remuneration paid them as is given to civilian employés for similar services. Forced military duty or service endangering them to capture by the Confederate forces will not be exacted from such as give themselves up to the U. S. military authorities.

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By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 28, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Fortress Monroe:

I have nothing particular to report this morning. There was a little more brisk firing than usual about 3 a. m., apparently on the lines of Mott and Birney. As no report has been received of it it is presumed to have been without consequence. A flag of truce sent in to Reams' Station yesterday by General Gregg, proposing to send a working party to bury our dead, was declined by General Wade Hampton on the ground that his people were then engaged in burying our dead, estimated at 200 in number, and that our wounded had all been removed. A congratulatory order of General Lee in yesterday's Petersburg paper claims 9 guns, 7 colors, and 2,000 prisoners as the result of the battle at Reams'.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 28, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: On examination of deserters from the enemy this morning I find that Fry's and Davis' brigades, of Heth's division, and Harris', Wright's, and Finegan's, of Mahone's division, still retain their old positions in the trenches. The general supposition is that the balance of the two named divisions are lying in reserve inside the enemy's works. I cannot locate Wilcox's division, but deserters all say that all the troops which fought the Fifth [Second] Corps at Reams' Station returned to within the trenches, or enemy's line, around Petersburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. MCENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 28, 1864—7.35 p. m. (Received 7.45 p. m.)

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

One deserter from Twenty-fifth Virginia Battalion, an organization raised for local defense in Richmond, now temporarily attached to Benning's brigade, came in to-day at Deep Bottom; brings no news. A

few refugees from Richmond agree as to the hard times in that locality, but have no military information. One of them says the report is current that General Lee says he will drive us off the Weldon road if it takes all his army to do it.

FRED. L. MANNING,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 28, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch received from the plank road station:

7 A. M.

All quiet and no change perceived in enemy's lines or camps. They continue to work on fortifications in vicinity of large fort near Weldon railroad.

H. W. FULTON.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following intercepted rebel messages have just been received from the signal officer at the Jordan house and are respectfully forwarded:

Colonel BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

One gun-boat above pontoon. No movements of enemy observed this p. m.

(Same to A. B.)

AUGUST 28, 1864—8.40 A. M.

Colonel BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A battery of eighteen pieces, eight horses to each piece, eight horses to each caisson, passing open space to left of Cobb's going toward pontoon. About twenty-five wagons passing on road going toward Cobb's.

R.,
Sergeant at C.

(Same to A. B.)

10.15 A. M.

Colonel BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A battery of artillery have come from the enemy's front in Chesterfield and halted in open space to left of Cobb's. Thirty wagons have passed open space going toward pontoon.

R.,
Sergeant at C.

(Same to A. B.)

Colonel BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A battery of six pieces of artillery, six horses to each, have just passed the Jordan farm, have now halted in rear of Battery No. 5; were not there at daylight.

R.,
Sergeant at C.

(Same to A. B.)

Colonel BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Artillery followed by six wagons going toward pontoon from open space to our left of Cobb's.

R.,
Sergeant at C.

(Same to A. B.)

Colonel BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Eighteen pieces of artillery before reported did not cross pontoon. Battery reported in open space has moved in direction of Bermuda Hundred. Some twenty wagons crossed pontoon from the Prince George side and are now passing open space going toward enemy's front in Chesterfield. Wagon train and ambulances crossed pontoon going toward Bermuda Hundred. There is an increase of tents in rear of open space. About 100 horses were taken from the right of same place going to water from which I think there is a cavalry or artillery force there.

R.,
Sergeant at C.

(Same to A. B.)

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 28, 1864—7 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

All quiet. Two battery flags on new works near Weldon railroad.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 28, 1864.

Maj. W. G. MITCHELL,
Aide-de-Camp, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: In reply to your note of yesterday concerning recommendation of colonels previously recommended for promotion, now to receive brevets, I have the honor to recommend for a brevet, for gallant and meritorious conduct, Col. James A. Beaver, One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, who has already been recommended by his former commanders for promotion to the rank of brigadier-general, and who lost his leg at Reams' Station, August 25. Although not among those mentioned in your note as having been previously recommended for promotion, I desire to recommend for the brevet rank of brigadier-general, Lieut. Col. K. O. Broady, Sixty-first New York Volunteers, who has for some time held the commission of colonel in his regiment, but cannot be mustered on account of the insufficient numbers of his regiment. Colonel Broady is an officer of proved ability. He commanded the Fourth Brigade of this division in the action of

August 25 until wounded, when he was obliged to leave the field. I consider that the service would be benefited by the conferring upon him of the additional rank desired.

Very respectfully,

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 61. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 2D ARMY CORPS,
August 28, 1864.

The number of colors lost recently in this command calls for special notice from the major-general commanding the division. A written report will be required from each regimental commander losing a color on the 25th instant; and in every case where there appears to have been no adequate reason for the loss the regiment will not be permitted to carry any colors until it demonstrates in action its ability to protect them. This rule will hereafter be followed in regard to all colors lost in battle, that the absence of them may be a standing reproach to those unable or unwilling to defend them.

By command of Major-General Gibbon, commanding division:

A. HENRY EMBLER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

DAVIS HOUSE SIGNAL STATION,
August 28, 1864—7 p. m.

Colonel LOCKE:

3.15 p. m. the enemy marched a column of infantry north on Weldon railroad. They were about 800 strong. Everything very quiet.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
First Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 28, 1864—4.20 a. m.

Division commanders will hold their commands in readiness for instant service in any direction they may be needed.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
August 28, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual transpired in my front during the last twenty-four hours. I have had a survey made of the line and am now making some improvements in its location, mainly to place the men on dry ground.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 45. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS, *August 28, 1864.*

I. In accordance with Special Orders, No. 155, paragraph 2, headquarters Ninth Army Corps, of this date, the undersigned assumes temporary command of the First Division, Ninth Army Corps.

II. The staff will remain the same as before, with the addition of First Lieut. R. A. Watts, Seventeenth Michigan Volunteers, aide-de-camp, who will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

J. F. HARTRANFT,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.

HDQRS. SECOND DIV. CAVALRY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on the cavalry picket-line from James River to the left of the Fifth Army Corps. General Kautz reports one man wounded by a guerrilla near Rollins' house, on the Powhatan road. The picket-line of the Second Division is complete from Gary's Church, on the plank road, to the railroad near the Wyatt road, thence to Warren's left. One brigade is posted between the plank road and the Williams house, and one brigade between the Williams house and Doctor Gurley's. A sketch of the picket-line will be forwarded as soon as practicable.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 28, 1864. (Received 6.50 p. m.)

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports that at 6.15 p. m. a train of ten cars loaded with troops passed the Junction toward Petersburg.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

Telegraph this to General Ord.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 28, 1864. (Received 12.30 p. m.)

Major-General ORD:

A quartermaster is here stating that he has orders at once to take all the details from the depots. It will be impossible for me to relieve those details until the troops of General Foster and Thirty-seventh New Jersey arrive. You know the length of my line and that it needs all

of my troops. I am expecting Foster and Thirty-seventh New Jersey hourly. Until they come the taking away of your details from depots will make it impossible to send others. All of your corps has been relieved except those. The enemy made a sharp attack on my line at daylight.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HATCHER'S, *August 28, 1864.*

Major-General BIRNEY:

If Colonel Grubb had obeyed my orders yesterday he would have been able to have relieved the quartermaster's employés before this. He had positive orders to march some time ago, and if you can send down and get a detail from him before you can call back the quartermaster's party, you had better do so and can take your choice. This dispatch will be your authority.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

AUGUST 28, 1864—12.55 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

I have directed Colonel McGilvery, as department commander, to remain here until all my batteries are in place and the officers fully instructed as to their duties, range, &c. Colonel Piper has the same instructions on your side of the river, and will not be relieved by you until you wish it.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

AUGUST 28, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY:

Colonel McGilvery has been ordered to report to you.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

AUGUST 28, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY:

I inspected the front formerly occupied by General Foster at sunset last night, and General Carr's division was there on the ground. General Foster should have reached you last night. Colonel Grubb sent me word a few moments ago that General Birney had authorized him to stay at Fort Converse. If you choose to keep the details of Colonel Cole's cavalry and let Colonel Grubb's regiment remain where it is I have no objection, but the only way to get scattered men to their commands is to order them peremptorily to join, and applications will soon come in for new details. I had so ordered with Colonel Grubb's regiment and with the details from the Tenth Corps at the depots, City Point, railroad, or elsewhere.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HATCHER'S, *August 28, 1864—2.20 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. D. B. BIRNEY:

I have just learned that General Foster is still here, and he is ordered to move at once to join you. This is due to misunderstanding as to when he was relieved, General Carr not having reported him relieved to these headquarters or notifying him that he was relieved.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 28, 1864.

General BIRNEY:

GENERAL: I packed up and started for your headquarters this morning. General Ord detained me and says I must remain here to-day to instruct his battery officers the range to different points of the enemy's line. Captain James, Third Rhode Island Artillery, who reports with his battery to you this morning, took a memorandum of all the batteries on your line yesterday for me and is doubtless prepared to give you any information in regard to them that you may require. I have shown your last dispatch to General Ord. He says I must remain, nevertheless, and give the above-mentioned information. I shall come as soon as I can get away.

Respectfully,

F. McGILVERY,
Colonel and Chief of Artillery.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 104. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 28, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. The position of the troops of this division in the trenches is reassigned as follows, viz:

First. The First Brigade, Col. J. B. Howell, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, commanding, will occupy their present front with two regiments in the trenches and two in reserve.

Second. The Second Brigade, Col. J. R. Hawley, Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, commanding, will rest its left as now, connecting with the right of the First Brigade, extending on the right to a point about 520 yards to the left of the Hare house. Colonel Hawley will place one-half of his troops in the trenches and the other half in reserve, provided that one-half of his force will give not less than one man to every yard of the front assigned to him. Only one of the two regiments armed with Spencer rifles will be placed in the front line at once, and the men now on the line between the Hare house and the front, 520 yards to the left of it, will not be removed until relieved by the troops of Brigadier-General Birney's command.

Third. The Third Brigade, Col. H. M. Plaisted, Eleventh Maine Volunteers, commanding, will occupy the ground between the left of the First Brigade and Mott's division, of the Second Corps. Colonel Plaisted will place one-half of his men on the front line and one-half in reserve, provided that one-half of his force will be sufficient to place not less than one man to the yard in the trenches.

Fourth. The reserves will relieve the troops in the trenches once in forty-eight hours.

* * * * * * *

By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Hatcher's, Va., August 28, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: In compliance with instructions from corps headquarters, I have the honor to report that, in obedience to orders from Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster, I left the defenses at Bermuda Hundred, Battery No. 6, at 6.15 a. m. on the 27th instant, with the following troops, viz: One hundred and forty-second, One hundred and seventeenth, One hundred and twelfth, and Third New York Volunteers, and the Twenty-fourth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, numbering in all 57 commissioned officers and 1,580 enlisted men; and that I reported at the headquarters Tenth Army Corps, near Petersburg, Va., at 10 a. m. the same day, with 57 officers and 1,577 men, three men having been excused and sent to the rear by the surgeon. At 6 p. m. I was assigned a position on the right of the line before Petersburg, as follows: three regiments with their right resting on the river and their left resting at the mortar and light 12-pounder battery, posted on the right of the race-course, and one regiment assigned to picket duty on the Appomattox River, their left resting near the Dunn house; the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers was, by direction of the commanding general, reported to Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry at 1 p. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. M. CURTIS,
Colonel 142d New York Volunteers, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 28, 1864—11 a. m.

Captain WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: I have to report one man wounded of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry last night on picket near Rollins' house, on the Powhatan road. He was fired upon three or four times and struck in three places with buckshot and horse killed. In other respects the line has been undisturbed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[AUGUST 29, 1864.—For Grant to Halleck, referring incidentally to Sheridan's operations in the Shenandoah Valley and the return of the Sixth Army Corps to the Army of the Potomac, see Vol. XXXIX, Part II, p. 313.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 29, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have nothing of importance to report this morning. The 13-inch mortar has been placed in battery on the right of the Tenth Corps front, and from time to time throws shell at the railroad depot in Petersburg. The difficulty of supplying the troops on the Weldon railroad, and the advantage of greater facility in moving troops from left to right of our extended line, has caused my attention to be called to the expediency of extending the City Point railroad to the Weldon railroad in rear of our lines. A survey by the engineers proves the scheme quite feasible, and there is ample material in the shape of rails and ties on the Norfolk road. The labor, therefore, would consist in the transportation of this material, the grading and laying of the track. The engineers estimate it would require a month to complete the work, but I am of the opinion, by placing a large force on it, it could be done in a shorter time. The question of its expediency is greatly dependent on the proposed future operations, and is therefore submitted to you for judgment. If it is contemplated the army will remain in its present position for any considerable time over the period, three weeks, required to construct the road, I think it would pay, as unless this is done we shall have to build, at least, two corduroy roads between the plank road and Weldon railroad. Report from signal officer just in indicates a movement of the enemy's infantry from their right to left. Troops are seen passing in that direction this morning.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 29, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

I will direct work to be commenced on the railroad extension at once. I do not want to give up the Weldon road, if it can be avoided, until we get Richmond. That may be months yet. To facilitate operations, wagons returning from near the Norfolk road and from the Weldon road should throw in a light load of rails and bring them to the present depot. No rails should be brought from the Norfolk road east of where the proposed road will intersect it, unless the engineers deem it expedient to haul in wagons all the rails that will be required. When the road is finished to that point, a train of cars could be run down the road and used to bring up the rails. Again, if wagons were to be used exclusively in placing rails where they are wanted, four parties could work at once—one from the Weldon road north, two from the Norfolk road (one north, the other south), and one from the City Point road. The manner of doing the work will be submitted to the engineers.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 29, 1864.*
(Received 1 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

If Captain Michler can possibly be spared, direct him to report here for orders. I want an engineer officer to report to General Sheridan for duty.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 29, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I cannot possibly spare Major Michler. Two officers, Captains Mendell and Turnbull, have recently been taken away. Major Duane's health is precarious and I am daily expecting his being obliged to leave on this account. Michler is the only officer of experience I have to act as chief engineer. In our present position the engineers are very much occupied. Besides field-works, there are the surveys for roads, the obtaining a knowledge of the topography of the country, countermining, and a variety of miscellaneous duties which are constantly arising and would prevent the reduction of the engineering force of this army. If it is deemed imperative to take an officer from this army, I would prefer the detachment of Captain Harwood, but I hope some one may be found other than those now here.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 29, 1864—1.20 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

I presume that our cavalry is so disposed that the enemy cannot come around Warren's flank and attack in rear without our having timely notice. If they should make such an attack Warren should move with every man he has and trust to getting back his position after a battle.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 29, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your dispatch of 1.20 received. Kautz's division of cavalry watches our rear from the Jerusalem plank road to the James. Gregg's division pickets from the Jerusalem plank road west, around our rear, and to Warren's left. Any movement of the enemy, such as you indicate, would therefore be known. There is no indication of any such movement. Perhaps my dispatch of this a. m. may have been accidentally either erroneously written or misapprehended. I desire to say the enemy's infantry had been seen passing from the vicinity of lead works toward Petersburg, apparently moving to their left. I have four divisions of infantry in reserve, ready to meet any movement in our rear or on the left.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 29, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster Armies Operating against Richmond:

You will please extend the City Point Railroad with the least practicable delay to the Weldon railroad, the extension to pass in rear of our

present lines, and at points giving the greatest accommodations to our troops. Telegraphs marked A and B on the subject are respectfully inclosed for your information.*

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
OFFICE OF CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
August 29, 1864.

Maj. J. C. DUANE,
Chief Engineer Army of the Potomac, General Meade's Hdqrs.:

The survey was made at the time by competent engineers; the distance was about four or five miles; cost of construction about $75,000; time, four weeks. It was thought by General Grant that further action would be unnecessary; but if General Meade desires a road constructed in rear of his lines I will have a cheap temporary track laid down that will not cost much nor take much time.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 29, 1864—3 p. m.

Brigadier-General INGALLS:

Major Duane has shown me your dispatch offering to build the railroad from the City Point road to the Weldon road. I shall be very glad to accept your offer. All the labor you want can be furnished by details. There is ample material on the Norfolk road. Possibly even the ties on that road may be available. At any rate, we can get all the material on the ground in advance of the preparation of the bed of the roadway. I have directed Duane to confer with you.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 29, 1864.*
(Received 11.30 p. m.)

General M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

General Grant has ordered me to extend the City Point Railroad to the Weldon road at once in rear of our lines. I have ordered work to be commenced at once and to be pushed forward as rapidly as possible. Detail will be made from the troops to assist. Will you please direct Colonel McCallum to send additional men and the necessary material to complete this work without any delay? General Grant is anxious to have it completed at the earliest moment possible.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster.

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* See Meade to Grant, 11.45 a. m., and Grant's reply, p. 564.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 29, 1864.*
(Received 11 p. m.)

Major WENTZ,
Chief Engineer and Superintendent, Alexandria:

I have just received a communication from General Ingalls, inclosing order of General Grant, for the immediate construction of line of railroad to connect City Point road with Weldon road, starting from and connecting with the two most convenient points on both roads. General Ingalls requested me to telegraph you, and urge immediate action, and the mustering of all railroad force you can obtain, and as many military will be furnished as may be needed. He has telegraphed the quartermaster-general, who will confer with you, and that you notify Colonel McCallum of your wants, and call on him for all the assistance he can send you. If McAlpine does not get back to-night I am ordered to go over to headquarters in the morning to see Major Duane in regard to the line and the points he wishes to connect. Please telegraph your instructions immediately, as General Ingalls is urgent. I will telegraph McAlpine at Norfolk.

JNO. MORGAN,
Assistant Engineer.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 29, 1864.*

Capt. M. SMITH,
Commanding James River Flotilla:

There is good reason for believing that one or more torpedoes were planted in the river, between this and Wilcox's Landing, last night. Before sending out any vessels, particularly with valuable cargoes, I wish at least to have a search made to see if the suspicion entertained is verified. I would be pleased, captain, if you would instruct the officers in your command convenient to this locality to search the river from immediately below here to Wilcox's Landing.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *August 29, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, City Point, Va.:

Scouts who left Mine Run Thursday night are just in, and report following: Wickham's and Young's cavalry brigades passed up the Valley early part of last week. Corse's and Anderson's brigades started for Richmond early part of last week. Anderson's brigade recalled and is still in Valley. Thought to be no infantry now in the Valley but part of Ewell's old corps and two or three brigades of Longstreet's corps. General Ed. Johnson, of Ewell's corps, gone to Atlanta. Understood that Beauregard has gone to Atlanta with troops from Valley. General Lomax is in Richmond, but not known whether his brigade is there. Prominent secessionists of Orange County say Richmond cannot be held a month with Weldon road in our possession. Rumors of important movements of infantry in the Valley when scouts left, but no particulars could be had. Other scouts will be in Wednesday.

GEORGE K. LEET,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to Generals Meade and Sheridan.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
City Point, August 29, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Our men failed in reaching our agent night before last, being driven back by the enemy's scouts. They met him, however, last night, he having left Richmond on Saturday evening. He says that he knows of no military movements, as none have taken place through Richmond in any direction. Two trains a day are run on the Virginia Central Railroad, and they go certainly as far as Gordonsville, as the agent himself lately bought a ticket to that point for a woman of his acquaintance. No supplies are being sent to General Early whatever. It is understood that Early must subsist himself or starve. Everything has been called in from the country easterly of Richmond, and the agent is quite certain that there are now but three picket-posts from Bottom's Bridge to Richmond, with two men on each post. He says that last night it was understood that twenty men belonging to the torpedo corps were to be sent down to join with fifteen scouts, under Lieutenant Tolman, to put torpedoes in the James River below this point. They had been waiting for a favorable night for some time. He knows that the twenty men came from Richmond on Saturday, and he thinks that the work was done last night. He thought that the torpedoes would be put in the river near Kimmage's, but our scouts told him that last night they happened to land near Kimmage's. He then said that there had been but two other points spoken of, one of which was Harrison's and the other the mouth of Herring Creek. This is all the information we have on that subject. Our agent brought through with him night before last a Mr. Makewater, engineer on the rebel steamer Beaufort, and a week from now he will bring the chief engineer of the rebel gun-boat Fredericksburg. It will be necessary to keep a lookout for these people, as after having effected their escape they are not desirous, on account of their families and friends, of giving information which will afterward appear in the papers, and consequently conceal their former occupation. I believe that Makewater was received yesterday by the provost-marshal at General Butler's headquarters. I inclose herewith Saturday's Richmond paper, being the only one brought. One of my lines is running very well now, and if the commanding general desires any specific information I should be glad to have my attention directed to it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

CITY POINT, *August 29, 1864.*

Captain MCENTEE:

General Grant has a dispatch from Washington to-day noon, brought by our people from Mine Run, indicating that troops from the Valley are on their way back to Richmond. Details not yet received, but expected by other scouts Wednesday. General Edward Johnson gone to Atlanta. Rumored also that Beauregard had gone to Atlanta with some of the troops from the Valley. Information received here to-day shows only that Bushrod Johnson's and Hoke's divisions are in position in front of the Tenth Corps. Three refugees from Richmond bring nothing different from report to General Humphreys this morning.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 29, 1864—3.50 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Deserters from Twenty-fifth North Carolina, Bushrod Johnson's division, report Johnson and Hoke before Tenth Corps. Deserter from First Engineers says it is the only engineer regiment in rebel service. Detachments of it are at bridges across the James, remainder encamped near Petersburg. Deserter from Seventh Tennessee says only between fifty and sixty in the regiment. Heard sergeant-major say so. All came in last evening and early this morning. Three refugees brought no news.

FRED. L. MANNING,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 29, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch received from plank road station:

At 7.10 a. m. a column of infantry, numbering between 3,000 and 4,000, came from woods in the rear of the large fort near Weldon railroad and went toward Petersburg, disappearing near lead-works. Enemy's line quiet. They continue working on new line of works near Weldon railroad.

FULTON.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 29, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following report received from the signal officer at the Jordan house:

AUGUST 29—9 a. m.

The enemy are at work intrenching north-northwest from this point, probably with the intention of enfilading the 13-inch mortar. The enemy have just been using a Whitworth gun from a point behind the woods nearly opposite Dow's mortar battery.

CLARK,
Captain.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 29, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following report just received from the station near the Gibbon house:

AUGUST 29—2.10 p. m.

Two pieces of light artillery have just moved from Petersburg toward the enemy's works in front of Cemetery Hill.

JORDAN,
Sergeant.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 233. } *August 29, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

6. The Artillery Brigade of the Ninth Corps will be constituted as follows, Lieut. Col. J. A. Monroe, First Rhode Island Artillery, commanding: Roemer's battery, Thirty-fourth New York, four 3-inch guns; Durell's battery (Pennsylvania), six 3-inch guns; Jones' battery, Eleventh Massachusetts, four 3-inch guns; Eaton's battery, Twenty-seventh New York, four Napoleons; Twitchell's battery, Seventh Maine, four Napoleons; Rogers' battery, Nineteenth New York, four Napoleons. The following-named batteries, now in the Ninth Corps, are transferred to the Artillery Reserve, and will report to Brigadier-General Hunt, chief of artillery, Army of the Potomac, who will give the necessary instructions for the organization of the artillery park of the corps, and for the transfer of the surplus material to the artillery park of the army: Start's, Third Vermont, four 3-inch guns; Thomas', Second Maine, four 3-inch guns; Mayo's, Third Maine, four 3-inch guns; Wright's, Fourteenth Massachusetts, four 3-inch guns.

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10. The attention of corps and other independent commanders is called to the large number of officers and men on special, extra, or daily duty, and on detached service within this army. According to the last reports over 1,000 officers and 21,000 enlisted men are so employed; numbers considered by the commanding general altogether disproportionate to the present strength of the army, and he calls upon corps and independent commanders to institute rigid inspections for the purpose of ascertaining whether many of the officers and men now on special service cannot be returned to duty. It is supposed that, as a general thing, the existing details for detached service were made prior to the commencement of the campaign, and now that the army is so much reduced in its effective strength the commanding general is of the opinion that the details for special service should be reduced proportionately, and he trusts that it is only necessary to direct attention to the subject to secure the return to duty of all officers and men whose service on detached duty can possibly be dispensed with.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 29, 1864—12.35 p. m.

The attention of corps commanders is called to the circular of July 2,* from these headquarters, calling for reports twice daily, by telegraph, of the events that transpired within the preceding twelve hours. The daily evening reports may hereafter be discontinued, but it is expected that morning reports giving a full summary of events that may have transpired the twenty-four hours previous will be regularly rendered at or before 9 a. m.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(To Generals Hancock, Warren, and Parke.)

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 29, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The artillery on the lines is under my general charge. The generals having charge of portions of the line give such orders to the batteries as their positions or circumstances require. All the batteries of the Sixth Corps, the only serviceable ones at my disposal, are now in position. There are none to replace yours, as there is no reserve artillery.

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 494. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 29, 1864.

1. Lieut. Col. William Wilson, Eighty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, is hereby assigned to the temporary command of the Consolidated Brigade of this division.

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By order of Brigadier-General Miles:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 29, 1864.

[General MOTT:]

GENERAL: Major-General Hancock directs me to inform you that the engineers have decided the location for a redoubt, about 250 yards in front of the Strong house. In order to cover properly the working party on this redoubt, your picket-line may have to be advanced a little in that vicinity. I am directed to meet the commander of the brigade, the picket-line, or some officer charged with establishing the new posts, and indicate generally to him where the line is to run. You will be required to furnish 500 men to work on this redoubt in two reliefs, one only being absent from the line at once. The first relief to be ready for work at 7 a. m. The men can be taken from the brigade

* See Vol. XL, Part II, p. 587.

camped near the Strong house with the above precaution. I will be at General Pierce's headquarters about 7 a. m. to-morrow to meet the officer you may designate.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 29, 1864—11 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

It is all quiet here this morning. I would like to ride along the lines, perhaps as far as your headquarters, if there is no reason for my remaining here.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to inquire whether the Fifth Corps has been reorganized into three divisions as proposed by you some time ago; and, if so, whether the instructions of the commanding general requiring that the troops of the old First Corps, certain Maryland regiments excepted, should compose one of the new divisions, have been complied with.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
August 29, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: The enemy's pickets in our front, right and left of the railroad, have shown a disposition to advance slightly this morning, apparently for the purpose of observation. There has been some firing in that quarter, and one man of our pickets wounded. All is now quiet.

Very respectfully, colonel, your most obedient servant,

CHAS. P. STONE,
Colonel 14th Infantry (in temporary command Second Division).

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 29, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual has transpired on my front during the past twenty-four hours. A portion of my line on the right is being altered, which will increase the strength of the line

and give the troops better camping-ground. I have ordered one-fourth of the command to be on duty at the parapet, with arms and accouterments, throughout the day, one-third throughout the night, and the whole command to be under arms at 4 a. m., and remain until 5.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 29, 1864—12.10 p. m.

Major-General PARKE:

The commanding general desires that you will submit your views with regard to reorganizing the First, Second, and Third Divisions of your corps into two divisions, and in the event of such reorganization, what distribution do you advise should be made of the several regiments and of the staff officers that would be rendered supernumerary?

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 29, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. A. MONROE,
Chief of Artillery, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I inclose herewith Special Orders, No. 233,* current series, of this date, from headquarters Army of the Potomac, reducing and designating the batteries of your corps. The batteries named will constitute the brigade of your corps for the present and will be sufficient for its wants, as Major-General Meade states that the number of divisions will be reduced to three. General Orders, No. 82,† Army of the Potomac, of 1863, defines the duties of the chief of artillery of this army and will guide you in your duties and responsibility to him. A copy of the order has been transmitted to Major-General Parke by the adjutant-general of this army. If you have no copy of it you will please request permission of General Parke to take a copy of his. You already have the orders for the organization of your park, the number of rounds of ammunition for each gun, the number of wagons can be easily calculated, and the number of forage wagons (five to each twenty-five ammunition wagons) for forage and provisions. Each battery is allowed five wagons—one for baggage, &c., and four for provisions and forage. (See General Orders, No. 27, July 1, 1864, headquarters Army of the Potomac, paragraphs 9 and 11.‡) You will calculate the number of wagons authorized according to that order, complete and submit it to me, and, upon approval, complete your train from the wagons you now have, when orders will be given you to turn over the surplus to the artillery park of the army. You will complete the staff of your brigade as soon as practicable and make arrangements for the prompt and regular supply of rations and forage. It is desirable that the artillery of your corps should be kept as much as possible together, and it is General Meade's instructions that when batteries are assigned by the corps commanders for service with the divisions their administration and supplies will be provided for from the Artillery Brigade.

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*See p. 570.
†See Vol. XXIX, Part II, p. 84.
‡See paragraphs 9 and 11, Special Orders, No. 44, Vol. XL, Part I, pp. 40, 41.

When the troops are detached from the corps so as to make it necessary, instructions will be given in time to the batteries to draw their supplies from the division or brigade to which they are attached.

I send you herewith a copy of Special Orders, No. 279, of October 28, 1863, from headquarters Army of the Potomac, respecting wagons to accompany batteries. It is always a saving of horses and of efficiency to have sufficient wagons to accompany batteries to transport forage. I also send you two copies each of General Orders, Nos. 2 and 5, from these headquarters. There are so few copies of them on hand that I cannot send you more. You will please cause the commanders and officers of your batteries to be instructed as to their requirements, and, if desired, leave a copy of each with General Parke, to whom, in obedience to paragraph 489, General Regulations, you will submit them and all other instructions sent you from these headquarters. Full and prompt reports to these headquarters respecting the service under your direction and all that concerns the artillery are expected from you, that every means may be promptly taken to make and keep your artillery efficient.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General, Chief of Artillery.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 279. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *October 28, 1863.*

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5. Hereafter orders requiring all wagons other than ambulances and medicine wagons and wagons containing intrenching tools to be sent to the rear may be so construed as to allow one wagon to accompany each battery of artillery for the purpose of conveying subsistence stores and forage.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 2. } ARTY. HDQRS., ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *January 15, 1864.*

The following instructions and regulations for the artillery of this army, having been sanctioned by the general commanding, are published for the government of all concerned:

1. The responsibility of choosing the position for action devolves upon the commander of the artillery. If assigned to his position by the general officer under whose orders he is placed he will, to relieve himself from the responsibility, report to the latter its objectionable features, provided a better one can be found, and suggest the means necessary to improve or secure it.

2. In taking up a position, four points require especial attention:

I. The efficacy of fire of the battery.

II. Cover for the pieces from the enemy's fire.

III. The position of the rest of the troops.

IV. Facility of movement.

I. That the fire should be effective is in all cases the most important consideration, to which, as far as may be necessary, the second consid-

eration must be sacrificed. For this purpose a clear view of the enemy is necessary, and judgment must be used in the selection of the different projectiles, according to the nature of the ground and the object to be attained. Concentration of fire, rather than its distribution, is of importance; hence the guns should be as much as possible so placed that their fire may converge on important points, and should not be too much scattered over the field. In a hilly or undulating country a moderate elevation, which gives a good view of the ground, is the best position for artillery. Too much elevation should be avoided, since the fire is more effective in proportion as the projectiles pass more closely to the ground. Ground covered by bushes, trees, or other obstructions is not favorable to the use of artillery. It is advantageous under all circumstances to fire at lines obliquely, and at columns in the direction of their greatest depth. Against walls, the most effective projectile is solid shot. Shot and, in rare cases, shell should be used against log stockades, barricades, &c., and for sweeping a wood—to which latter purpose shrapnel and canister are not well adapted—and also against deep columns of cavalry, taken in the prolongation of the column. There has been too much neglect of solid-shot fire from the smooth-bore guns, and altogether too much dependence placed upon shell. In the above cases percussion shell fired direct so as to act first as solid shot or, at need, shrapnel without the fuse are the best for rifled field guns. Canister is to be employed at close quarters. It is effective both from the wide spread of its balls and from the rapidity with which it may be fired, accurate aiming not being necessary. Canister may be fired with great advantage into the edge or skirts of a wood which is about to be charged by our infantry, and against the flank of an enemy's battery at close quarters, under which circumstances the canister-shot are very destructive to both men and horses. The prevailing tendency to the use of canister is too great. Shrapnel may be considered as a long-range canister, the iron case or shell carrying the bullets safely over the ground before distributing them. It should be chiefly used against troops which are stationary or not moving rapidly, or directed against fixed points over which an enemy is passing. Distances must be accurately judged, the projectiles carefully prepared, the fire slow and deliberate, and its effect well noted, with a view to the correction of errors. Shrapnel is too often wasted. Artillery officers should recollect that, although it is the most effective and powerful of projectiles if well used, it is also the most harmless and contemptible if used badly; that the elements of uncertainty in its effect are numerous, and therefore in its use nothing should be left to chance which can be made certain by care and attention. Shrapnel should never be fired rapidly, except against large and dense masses, and then solid shot would generally be better. An intelligent officer, or non-commissioned officer, should be detailed to watch the effect of each shot, and to report what correction appears necessary. When time presses and observation of the shrapnel fire is difficult, canister is preferable, if the range is such as to admit of its use. Shrapnel fire is very effective against lines of troops, columns, or batteries which are stationary upon open ground. It is not to be used against troops which are covered from view by the conformation of the ground, or by obstacles of any kind, except only when it is known that the enemy is stationed within a certain distance in the rear of a given obstacle, as in the case of field works, against the defenders of which shrapnel is effective. The allowance of shrapnel for the light 12-pounder gun is largely in excess of the ordinary requirements of battle. By reference to the table for packing ammunition chests it will be

seen that for the 12-pounder gun only eight shrapnel are allowed. In determining the proportion for the light 12-pounder gun the number was increased to twelve, because circumstances might arise which would make them useful, but it was expected that habitually one-third of them, at least, would be used as solid shot. Batteries should be as much as possible protected from sudden attack, either by their position or by troops posted near them. A position within rifle-range of a wood, or other cover which is not held by our own troops, is a bad one, and should not be taken if possible to avoid it, since the enemy can occupy the cover, if only with sharpshooters, and pick off our men and horses. Woods and other places of cover within the range of small-arms must therefore be occupied by our own troops. Even on perfectly open ground the flanks of a battery must be protected from assaults. Its front can take care of itself; and hence it follows that the supports of batteries should never be placed behind them, nor amongst the carriages, but always on the flanks, either on the prolongation of the line of the battery, or, if cover can be secured, in advance or rear of that prolongation; but always within easy supporting distance and no closer, so that the fire directed on the battery may not injure its supporting troops. Although artillery, as a rule, must protect itself against attacks from the front, yet if such attacks are made by a heavy force, either in successive lines or in column, and with determination and persistence, the supporting troops should, if practicable, wheel forward their outward flanks, so that their cross-fire may sweep the ground in front of the battery, and may then charge vigorously with the bayonet, the commander of the supports having previously arranged with the commander of the battery for a suspension of the artillery fire. The enemy having been driven off, the supports will at once fall back toward the flanks so as to unmask the fire of the battery.

II. Artillery should, whenever practicable without undue detriment to its offensive powers, seek positions in which it may be protected from the enemy's fire, or concealed from his observation. The best natural cover is that afforded by the crest of hills which slope gently toward the enemy. The guns should be placed behind them with their muzzles looking over the top. The limbers and caissons will thus be entirely concealed. Cover which makes splinters when struck by shot, such as masonry, wood stacks, &c., is objectionable. Artificial cover may be obtained by sinking the piece. This is done by making an excavation for it to stand in. The excavation should be one foot and a half deep in front, and should slope gently upward toward the rear. The earth is to be thrown up in front to the height of about one foot and a half. Ditches may be dug at the sides for the men. This system of sinking the piece is used with advantage behind the edge of a hill, as it permits the piece to be brought closer to the crest and enables it the better to sweep the ground. Good drainage should always be secured. Next to the protection of the guns, that of the caissons and limbers is of importance. Where the batteries are frequently moving the limbers cannot be put under cover, but must remain close in rear of the pieces. Where so situated that they are not likely to require movements greater than can be effected by hand, as on a defensive line, or in position, a caisson body for each piece, or even one for each section, may be partially protected near the guns by digging trenches of one spade width, for the wheels only, so as to sink them to the axles, all the limbers with their horses being placed under cover if it can be found within reasonable distance of the position of the battery. Each section should load from one caisson-body until the latter is empty, when it should be

replaced and sent to the ammunition train to be replenished. Neither caissons nor limbers must, under any circumstances, be so far separated from their guns as to be beyond the prompt control of the battery commander.

III. The third consideration in posting artillery is the position of the rest of the troops. In general, the movements and positions of the infantry and cavalry determine the position for action of the artillery, which usually places itself on the flanks of the other troops, or between their intervals where it is secure itself and can fire for the longest period of time. A position in advance of other troops is very objectionable, especially in advance of cavalry. Cases occur, however, in which it cannot be avoided, those cases being, in general, when the action of the artillery is of primary importance, and there is no suitable position for it elsewhere. When a line of battle is established, on which infantry is to receive an attack, it is often strengthened by artificial means. A rifle-pit is dug, or barricades of wood constructed, or advantage is taken of stone walls, &c. In such cases the artillery should be placed immediately on the line, preferably on advanced points, or in flanking positions, if such offer, so that it can be used freely, and fire canister at need. This it cannot do if posted, as is too often the case, behind the line so as to fire over the troops. For the reasons already given, the guns when so posted should not be placed behind wood or stone barricades. Such cover should be removed and the pieces sunk as already directed, or earth parapets placed in front of them. It may be laid down as a rule that artillery should not fire over our own troops. For this there are three good reasons: Accidents are liable to happen to the troops from projectiles; it embarrasses their advance by battering the ground in front of them, and obliging them to hold back until the fire can be stopped or its range extended; it makes the men over whom the projectiles are passing uneasy, and may demoralize them. When it becomes necessary to fire over troops, solid shot and, in rare cases, shell should be used, and not canister nor shrapnel; the latter projectile being liable to burst too soon, and to carry destruction among those over whose heads it was intended to pass.

IV. It is of importance that every position assumed by artillery should afford facilities for free movement in every direction, in order that such new positions may be taken up as circumstances may require. When this is not the case, care must at least be taken that the safety of the guns is not compromised. When the position is to be held to the last extremity, strong supports should be furnished and the guns fought to the last, so that if lost it shall be with honor. If the position is not to be so held, and the nature of the ground will permit, prolonges must be fixed that the battery may be fought retiring with the other troops. When it is likely that a position will be carried and its defense will not justify the loss of guns, they must, if the nature of the ground will not admit of the use of the prolonge, be limbered up and retired in due season under the protection of their supports. A battery may often be retired by sections, and half batteries under the protection of its own fire alone. Whenever a battery takes post, the means of moving it to the front, the flanks, or the rear must be studied by its commander, and, if necessary, walls and fences torn down and ditches filled up, so that no unexpected obstacles may hinder its freedom of movement in any direction. It is a disgrace to an artillery officer if a gun, or even an opportunity of rendering service, should be lost through a neglect or want of

forethought on his part. Guns may be honorably lost, especially if their sacrifice is necessary to the safety of other troops. But in all such cases the enemy should be made to pay dearly for them.

3. Objects of fire: It is too much the tendency of artillery to fire at artillery. In the beginning of a battle the artillery should direct its fire wherever the enemy seems most exposed to danger. When the battle is further advanced, if our own troops are about to repel an attack, that portion of the enemy's force is to be fired on whose attack is the most dangerous for the time being. If we are acting on the offensive, the guns must fire on that portion of the enemy whose resistance is the most formidable. When acting on the defensive the enemy's infantry and cavalry are the most proper objects of fire. Artillery fire is to be concentrated on single points rather than divided between numerous objects, notwithstanding that such a division or distribution of the fire may cause a greater absolute loss to the enemy. It is not the number of killed and wounded that decides a battle, but the panic and demoralization of those who remain; and this panic and demoralization are much sooner created and spread by concentrating the artillery fire on successive points than by distributing it over a wide space. The general rule is that artillery should concentrate its fire upon that part of the enemy's force which, from its position, or from its character, it is the most desirable to overthrow. Against an enemy's battery the fire should be concentrated on a single piece until that is disabled, and should then be turned upon another, and an analogous plan should generally be followed in firing upon infantry and cavalry. When firing upon a hostile column the guns are to be directed at its center. If the column is in the act of deploying the flank toward which the deployment is being made is to be fired on with canister or shrapnel. As a general rule artillery should not fire upon skirmishers or small groups of men. It is too much the habit to open fire on wagons or single horsemen, or small parties, and sometimes, as in almost all cases of shelling woods, on a mere suspicion that an enemy may be in a certain locality. This is a perversion of artillery from its proper duties, which are to destroy material obstacles and disorganize masses of men, so as to make them an easy prey to the other arms. A successful fire upon individuals, or even on small bodies, produces no adequate result, and may be compared to picket shooting, which scarcely rises above the level of murder.

4. Expenditure of ammunition: One of the evil effects of firing at small bodies is the waste of ammunition. Rapid firing at large bodies and opening at long ranges are additional causes of waste. In small skirmishes between 300 and 400 rounds per battery are expended; the fire, according to the reports, frequently averaging, and sometimes exceeding, one round per minute for each gun. In general engagements batteries have been known to expend all the ammunition in their chests in a little over an hour and a half. An officer who expends ammunition in this manner proves his ignorance of the proper use of his arm, and a want of capacity for the command of a battery. He also incurs a heavy responsibility by throwing a whole battery out of use, and should be held to answer for the consequences. There has been an improvement in this respect, but there is still too great a consumption of ammunition. It is not so much the loss of the ammunition that should be considered—limited as is the amount which an army can transport—as the loss of effect from too distant and too rapid firing. In no case, except when firing canister at short ranges, should the rate exceed one round from each gun in two minutes; and that rate should

only be reached at critical moments, when the distance, numbers, and formation of the enemy are such that the fire is sure to be effective. At all other times one round in four to six minutes is as rapid firing as should be permitted. The value of the rifled cannon consists principally in its accuracy. Accuracy requires careful pointing, with close observation of the effect, and these require time. Twelve shots in an hour at an object over 1,000 yards distant, the time being spent in careful loading and pointing, will produce better results than fifty shots will ordinarily produce from the same gun in the same time. If a heavy artillery fire is required it should be obtained, not by rapid firing, but by bringing a large number of guns into action, and firing each with the greatest accuracy attainable. The campaign allowance is calculated to suffice for a general action and the combats which usually precede it; and, under ordinary circumstances, an officer who expends all his ammunition in a few hours renders himself liable to the suspicion that his reckless expenditure was prompted by a desire to quit the field. In future, batteries will not be permitted to leave their positions under this plea. The guns and cannoneers will remain on the ground until ammunition is furnished them. As soon as one caisson from each section has been emptied the empty caissons will be sent to the rear, under charge of a non-commissioned officer, to replenish at the ammunition train. At a time when all the resources of the country are taxed to the utmost to provide the army and navy with munitions of war, the non-effective expenditure of ammunition, in addition to other evils, diminishes greatly the efficiency of fire to which the artillery might attain; for the consequent excessive demand gives us, in many instances, imperfectly made and hastily inspected projectiles, instead of carefully manufactured and approved ones.

5. The custom which obtains in some batteries of bringing from the ammunition-chests a number of rounds and placing them near the gun on the ground is a bad one, and is positively prohibited. It not only leads to too rapid firing, but in case of a sudden movement of the battery this ammunition is apt to be left on the ground, as it requires time properly to repack it.

6. Opening fire: That the enemy is within range is not a sufficient reason for firing upon him. The fire is not to be commenced until the enemy is within effective range—that is, so near that at least one-quarter of the shots are hits. Firing at too great a distance wastes ammunition which will be wanted at the critical moments of the battle, and emboldens the enemy's troops by giving them a contemptuous idea of the effects of our fire. Frederick the Great, in his instructions on this subject, says:

> It sometimes happens that the general in command, or some other general, is himself forgetful, and orders the fire to be opened too soon, without considering what injurious consequences may result from it. In such a case the artillery officer must certainly obey, but he should fire as slowly as possible and point the pieces with the utmost accuracy, in order that his shots may not be thrown away. Such a fire is only pardonable when the general wishes to attract the enemy's attention to one point so as to make movements in another.

But in such a case as this the object of the fire should be explained to the artillery officer. Accuracy of fire is of more importance than quickness. The fire should be slow while the enemy is at a distance, is to be quicker as the distance diminishes, and is to become rapid when canister shot is being fired at effective ranges. There are moments in which we should not fire, or only very slowly, and others of a critical nature in which there should be no question of saving of ammunition;

but the latter are only of short duration and do not lead to a lavish expenditure, while the inefficient constant fire at long ranges always has that effect. A careful record will be kept of the amount and kinds of ammunition used.

7. After an engagement the commander of each battery must use all diligence in putting it into a condition to march and to fight. He will replace disabled horses, fill up his ammunition-chests, make whatever repairs his means will permit, and, if necessary, reassign officers and men, so as to be ready for service at the earliest possible moment. This will be done before he sleeps. He will also present to the commander of the artillery brigade to which he belongs a field return, showing the number of effective officers and men, of guns, caissons, and horses, the amount of ammunition expended, and what he has on hand after replenishing his chests. The field return will give the names of officers killed and disabled, and those for duty, and will be made each night of a battle lasting more than one day. The field returns of batteries will be at once consolidated by the commander of the brigade, who will use all the means at his disposal to complete the batteries for service. He will note his action on the consolidated returns and transmit them to the chief of artillery of the army for his information, and to enable him to provide at once for all deficiencies. When a general action is fought the batteries should be refitted and ready to take the field at dawn of the ensuing day, even with a reduced number of guns.

8. As soon after the action as possible a general return of the losses of men and material, and a separate report of the fight, will be presented to the commanders of artillery brigades for transmittal to the chief of artillery. The return should contain a specification of the men and horses killed and disabled, giving the names of the killed and wounded officers and men and dates of death; of whatever has been made unserviceable or has been injured; of whatever has been expended, lost, or damaged, distinguishing what has fallen into the hands of the enemy; and, under the head of remarks, should call attention to all defects of material and of ammunition noticed, and should suggest proper remedies. The report, which is in addition to that required by the commander of the troops with which it serves, should briefly describe the participation of the battery in the engagement, as far as may be necessary for understanding the part taken by it; the special instructions communicated; its position, with a statement of the neighboring troops; the nature of the enemy's troops against which its fire was directed; the distances of fire; the kind of projectiles used; the effect remarked; the reasons why positions were changed; the behavior of the men, and, without regard to rank, who distinguished himself; and, lastly, all important circumstances observed in its neighborhood. If sections or half batteries were detached, it is to be specified by whose order and for what purpose they were so detached. Separate reports should be prepared by the commanders of pieces so detached. They are to be annexed, in original, to the narrative of the commander of the battery.

9. When more than one battery is engaged, the brigade commander should also forward a general account of the operations of the artillery, mentioning specially those who distinguished themselves. He will also consolidate and tabulate the returns of losses of men and material of his corps.

10. Commanders of each brigade of artillery will see that the inspections prescribed by the General Regulations, paragraph 104, are regularly made. He will himself inspect each battery once in each month, and make a report of the inspection in the prescribed printed form to

the chief of artillery of the army. The inspection will be made as early in the month as practicable, and will extend to all the points embraced in the forms, in which all blanks will be properly filled. This inspection report will accompany the monthly return.

11. A monthly return of each battery, according to the form furnished from this office, will be made on the first of each month to the brigade commander. The returns of each corps will be consolidated, and the consolidated return sent to the office of the chief of artillery. Should any battery be detached, so that its returns are not received within three days by the brigade commander, he will enter its name with the reasons for its absence in the column of remarks, and forward the consolidated returns by the third of the month at latest. As soon as the return is received from the absent battery, it will be forwarded to the office of the chief of artillery, entered on the consolidated return, and returned to the commandant. Requisitions for horses and ordnance stores will also be transmitted with the monthly return. Except in cases of exigency, such requisitions will be sent in at no other time.

12. Commandants of artillery will watch over and check the extravagant expenditure of ordnance stores, and take the necessary measures to cause instructions to be given regularly to officers and non-commissioned officers in all their duties. A regular course of instruction for officers and non-commissioned officers will be established whilst in winter quarters. These recitations will embrace the tactics, orders, &c., in force, and also the subject of ammunition, its description, and mode of preparation. Special attention should be called to the study of Articles IV and V of the Instructions for Field Artillery.

13. On marches no supplies or baggage whatever, except the knapsacks of cannoneers, articles authorized by regulations, and, when circumstances absolutely require it, two days' forage of grain and hay (twisted) will be allowed on artillery carriages, nor will any article be placed on the spare wheels. Brigade commanders will be responsible for the enforcement of this order, and will in their respective commands cause all articles placed on artillery carriages, contrary to this order, to be thrown off.

14. On level, good roads, when it will not add sensibly to the labor of the horses, a portion of the cannoneers, not to exceed two to the piece and four to the caisson, may be allowed to ride, but no man shall be allowed to ride longer than half an hour at a time. If the roads are bad or pass over rolling ground no one shall, under any circumstances, be allowed to mount the chests, except the artificers who work in camp, for whom the limber-chests of the forge and battery wagon are reserved. Cannoneers may from time to time change places with the drivers. The sick, unable to march, must be carried in ambulances, or as may be otherwise provided. The chests will be mounted only by order of the commander of the battery, or by his authority delegated to chiefs of sections. On approaching a hill the men so mounted will, without waiting for orders, dismount. On the march batteries will never stop to water. It delays the column behind them. The cannoneers will remain near their pieces, and when an obstacle presents itself will be called to the front at once to remove it, fill up mud holes, repair bridges, &c. An officer, or intelligent non-commissioned officer, should always precede the column so far as to enable him to return and notify the commandant of any obstructions. When it is probable that there will be a delay of ten minutes or more the drivers should be dismounted and the pole props let down. When, from any cause, a carriage on the

march is unable to proceed it will immediately be drawn out of the column, and the carriages behind it will pass and close up, so as not to delay the movement of the troops.

15. When not on the march, and battery drills are not practicable, the battery horses will, when the weather permits, be exercised daily.

By command of Brigadier-General Hunt:

JNO. N. CRAIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

GENERAL ORDERS, } ARTY. HDQRS., ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 5. } *April 11, 1864.*

1. For the campaign, the knapsack carried on the ammunition chest will not contain more than the following-named articles: One-half shelter-tent, one wool blanket, one poncho, one jacket or blouse, one pair drawers, two pair stockings, two shirts, one pair trousers. The excess of the kits over these articles will be carried by the owner, and the amount of clothing to be packed in the knapsacks may be reduced at the discretion of the brigade commander. The great coat will be carried by the owner.

2. Haversacks and canteens will not be carried on the carriages; they must be carried by the men.

3. Not more than four knapsacks will be transported on the gun carriage, battery wagon and forge, and not more than eight on the caisson. The excess of the number of knapsacks must be carried by the men, or their transportation otherwise provided for.

4. The knapsacks and paulins must be so packed and arranged as to offer no impediment to the service of the guns, or to the prompt procurement of ammunition.

5. The gunner and chief of caisson will, under direction of the chief of the piece, be responsible for the proper loading of these articles on their respective carriages, and that no more than the number allowed are carried. The excess will be thrown off on the road, the knapsacks of the gunner and chief of caisson being the first to be thrown away.

6. In packing the limbers the knapsacks must be packed as closely as possible to the chests, so as not to throw the weight on the pole.

7. The loading of the forage wagons, of which three are allowed to each battery, must be strictly attended to, and the battery commanders and brigade quartermasters will each, when the wagons are under his charge, be responsible that these wagons are loaded with forage exclusively.

8. The full weight of forage must be secured, as the campaign allowance of ten pounds a day is the minimum on which a horse can do his work. The minimum load to start with is 2,760 pounds of grain, being six days' supply for the wagon teams and two days' supply for the battery horses. If the roads are good, this load may be increased to 3,220 pounds, which will give seven days' forage for the battery horses and forage wagon teams. The other wagons, ambulances, &c., carry the forage for their own teams.

9. In drawing forage from the depot, care must be taken that the full weight of grain is obtained. The quartermaster who receipts for the forage is responsible for this, and must take the necessary measures to secure the full amount he receipts for. If unable to get it, he will promptly report the cause to his commanding officer, and in time to rectify it. No subsequent excuse will be received.

10. In no case will any grain be carried on the artillery carriages until the forage wagons are loaded with seven days' supply. When the wagons cannot carry this amount any forage on the artillery carriages would overload them.

11. When a battery is separated from its brigade and wagons, one days' forage may be carried on the carriages, viz, one bag on each carriage, to be packed so as not to throw its weight on the pole. In feeding it out, the heaviest carriage to be first unloaded.

12. Forage wagons should not be separated from their batteries when it is possible to avoid it, except when the brigade marches together, when the wagons may be with the brigade train, but ready to be detached with their batteries at a moment's warning. Should it be necessary to send the forage wagons to the rear, or leave them behind with the trains when the batteries move, it will be so stated specially in the order and instructions given for the supply of forage from day to day. As the packing of grain on horses injures the latter, one forage wagon should, if possible, always accompany each battery.

13. Great care must be taken in feeding. To feed from the ground occasions great waste, and the dirt eaten by the horses with it is injurious. In the absence of nose-bags horses must be fed from boxes, or cloths, or by hand. The grain left in the nose-bag or otherwise by the horse, must be collected and fed to him, if necessary, by hand.

14. Battery commanders should frequently allow their batteries to pass them on the march, carefully inspecting the horses, carriages, and men. The same rule is applicable to chiefs of sections and of pieces in their respective commands, in order to enforce the observance of all orders.

15. The drivers must not be allowed to lounge, to cross their legs over the horses' necks, or to needlessly punish them. The cannoneers must be kept at their posts or opposite them on the side of the road, and no straggling will be permitted. They are liable to be called on at any moment, either for service or to aid in getting the carriages through difficult places.

16. Special attention is called to paragraph 13 and following of General Orders, No. 2, of January 15, 1864, from these headquarters, respecting the loading of the artillery carriages and watering the horses on the march.*

By command of Brigadier-General Hunt:

JNO. N. CRAIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY,
August 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on the cavalry picket-line from the James River to the left of the Fifth Army Corps (Warren). General Kautz reports one man of the First District of Columbia Cavalry slightly wounded and another captured, with horse and equipments, by guerrillas last night while on picket. The latter was patrolling.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

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* See p. 581.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 29, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

I wish to place two 100-pounder Parrotts in a battery on my right. Will you ask Colonel Abbot if he can send them to me? They can come up by railroad and be hoisted into the work from the cars, where the 13 inch mortar is.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 29, 1864.

Lieut. Col. F. MCGILVERY,
Chief of Artillery:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that you open on the town of Petersburg all available guns from 7.30 to 9.30 this evening, concentrating the fire as much as possible. The 13-inch mortar will be fired upon court-house as rapidly as it can be handled.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 109. HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 29, 1864.

* * * * * * *

3. Maj. A. H. Stevens, Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, with Companies I and K of that regiment, are hereby detailed for duty at these headquarters. Major Stevens will report with his command to the provost-marshal without delay.

By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 110. HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 29, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. Colonel Rand, Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, will have entire command of his troops within this corps. He will maintain the picket-line from the right of General Foster to Spring Hill. He will relieve all orderlies, as he deems best for the service, and supply the provost marshal with a lieutenant and twenty-five men for duty.

By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., August 29, 1864.

The following disposition of the troops comprising this division is hereby made for the present. If found unequal it will be rectified as the nature of the ground will be learned. The First Brigade, Colonel Cur-

tis commanding, will occupy the line from the Appomattox to the City Point Railroad; the Second Brigade, Colonel Barton, the line from the City Point Railroad connecting with Colonel Curtis' line, the left resting about half way across the race-course; the Third Brigade, Colonel Osborn commanding, from the left of Colonel Barton's brigade, connecting on the left with the troops of Brigadier-General Birney's division. Brigade commanders will report the length of the line and the number of men in their front and the number of men in reserve. Each brigade will picket its own front and strengthen the works in such places as is necessary by additional abatis, earth-works, &c. If sand-bags are required the number necessary will be reported at once. Each brigade commander will be held responsible for the proper picketing and strengthening of the work on his front and for the defense of the line intrusted to his charge. The troops in the trenches will be relieved from the reserves as often as brigade commanders deem necessary.

By order of Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster:

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 15. } HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIGADE, TENTH ARMY CORPS, *August 29, 1864.*

In pursuance of orders from general headquarters, commanding officers of rifled guns in position to reach the city of Petersburg will open fire upon a central part of the town at 8.15 or 8.30 o'clock this evening, and continue the fire for one and a half hours. The fire should be delivered with care and with a certainty of reaching the town.

By command of F. McGilvery, colonel First Maine Light Artillery and chief of artillery:

O. S. DEWEY,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 29, 1864.*

Major-General ORD:

If you can raise from 400 to 600 cavalry, send them under a good officer from Deep Bottom to sweep down the river to Wilson's Wharf. From that point they can be ferried over the river and return by this side. There will be no necessity for them to take forage with them. The object in sending them is to catch up all the enemy's scouts and parties that are said to be near the river with torpedoes ready to plant. I want them to destroy and use all forage and wheat stacks, but to keep out of houses.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HATCHER'S, *August 29, 1864—2.50 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I cannot raise more than 200 men, and do not think it advisable to send that small [force] across the river, as the enemy's pickets are reported to have been strengthened at Deep Bottom.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HATCHER'S, *August 29, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I cannot raise more than 300 cavalry this evening by raking together all in this neighborhood. The best officer I have is Captain Allis, who does not know much about the country, but I will put him across the river if you say so.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 29, 1864—3.30 p. m.*
(Received 4 p. m.)

General ORD,
Eighteenth Army Corps:

General Grant directs me to say that he thinks 300 cavalry will be sufficient for the purpose if it can get out from Deep Bottom, and that he thinks the infantry can enable it to get out.

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 29, 1864—3.35 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have 10 officers and 251 cavalry; about half the men scattered on orderly and other duties. General Birney reports over 600 cavalry. I have telegraphed him for 200. Probably he is away, or considers himself not under my orders, as no answer has been received to my telegram. Is it worth while your ordering him to send me 200 cavalry? They would arrive here some time to morrow a. m. I shall await your orders whether to send my 200 cavalry on the scout from Deep Bottom.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *August 29, 1864—3.45 p. m.*

General ORD:

A force of 200 is not sufficient. Postpone the expedition until a larger force is available.

By command:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 29, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Birney now reports that he has no cavalry mounted, except a small company that relieved my escort on the river as pickets and the usual provost guard and orderlies. He left the cavalry that was at Deep Bottom there, and all the rest is dismounted in trenches.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 29, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Colonel BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Birney wishes to put 200-pounder Parrotts on the railroad where the 13-inch mortar is. Shall I direct him to do so?

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully referred to Major-General Meade, who will give General Birney such orders as he may deem proper.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 29, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

Can you send me 200 cavalry, under a first-rate field officer, for a special purpose?

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
August 29, 1864—3.15 p. m.

General ORD:

I have no cavalry mounted, except a small company that relieved your escort on the river and the usual provost guard and orderlies. I left the cavalry that was at Deep Bottom there. My cavalry are dismounted and in trenches.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HATCHER'S, *August 29, 1864.*

Major-General BIRNEY:

Major-General Ord wishes to know if you received his telegram in regard to the cavalry. He also directs that you relieve a detail of one lieutenant and thirty men of the Eighth Maine Volunteers, now on duty with your artillery train, as soon as you can.

THEO. READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 29, 1864.

Maj. THEODORE READ,
Eighteenth Army Corps:

I answered General Ord that I had no mounted cavalry except orderlies and a small picket force on duty. I left 100 cavalry at Deep Bottom.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 29, 1864—9.20 a. m.
(Received 10.10 a. m.)

Major-General ORD,
Headquarters Eighteenth Corps:

I think it would not be advisable to attempt to drive them from that position. General Paine has not enough troops to hold it permanently if he obtains it, and it is not of much importance anyway. His defensive works can easily be held with his strength, but it might be fatal to attempt offensive movement.

Respectfully,

PETER S. MICHIE,
First Lieutenant, U. S. Engineers.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT,
August 29, 1864. (Received 11.25 a. m.)

General PAINE,
Commanding, Deep Bottom:

You need not drive the enemy from Ammon's house. It is not of sufficient importance for you to give the enemy the defensive and take the offensive with your limited command. Besides it is too far from your line to hold it should you take it. Lieutenant Michie, engineer, will ride to your headquarters this p. m. to explain the ground around you.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 29, 1864—7.55 p. m.

Major READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General, General Ord's Headquarters:

The earth-work is distant at least two miles from battery at Crow's Nest, and at least a mile and a quarter from the position at Dutch Gap. It can therefore do us no great injury. We cannot prevent its erection without occupying the ground ourselves, which would take a large force, say 2,000 men, to do. I believe that the enemy are simply making a strong defensive line of works on the ridge from Cox's Ferry to Three-Mile Creek, which we occupied some two weeks ago and afterward abandoned.

PETER S. MICHIE,
First Lieutenant, U. S. Engineers.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 29, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT:

A detail of 100 men has been ordered to report to you from Tenth Connecticut Volunteers.

T. READ,
Major, &c.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 29, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Lieutenant Amsden reports the following:

The enemy are building quite a large earth-work directly northwest of this station and to the left and rear of Sailor's Tavern, on the Cox's Ferry road. The Howlett house battery has just opened on the Water Battery. The battery reported last night has been annoying our working party at Dutch Gap to-day.

THEO. F. PATTERSON,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS SIEGE TRAIN,
August 29, 1864.

Capt. T. EDSON,
Ordnance Officer, Fort Monroe:

CAPTAIN: On 23d instant I sent you a requisition for 100 rounds for the 13-inch mortar. Please notify me if you will supply them with all convenient speed, as the supply on hand is getting low. Are the cartridges for the rifled guns (30-pounder Parrott and 4½-inch gun) made up at Fort Monroe? If so, the men in charge should be cautioned to use only good mortar powder and to be more careful in measuring it. As it is, the cartridges are part mortar powder, part cannon powder, and part a mixture of the two. I have been obliged to empty and refill them here. I would prefer to have them forwarded unfilled to having them in their present condition.

Your obedient servant,

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 29, 1864.

Captain WEIR:

CAPTAIN: I have to report, for the information of the general commanding the cavalry, that one man of the First District of Columbia Cavalry was slightly wounded on picket last night, and one man, with horse and equipments, of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry was captured whilst patroling. No other events reported.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 124. } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., August 29, 1864.

I. Fort Clark, at Hatteras Inlet, will be dismantled, and the armament, ordnance stores, &c., transferred to Fort Hatteras. The commanding officer at Fort Hatteras is charged with the execution of this order.

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By command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. OUTPOSTS, 132D REGT. NEW YORK INFANTRY,
Camp Claassen, Batchelder's Creek, N. C., August 29, 1864.

Brig. Gen. I. N. PALMER, *Commanding:*

A refugee just came in reports that all available troops in this part of the State have been sent to the line of the Weldon railroad. The movements of the enemy's scouts, I think, show this. A good time for a raid.

G. H. HITCHCOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., August 29, 1864.

Col. D. W. WARDROP,
Commanding Sub-District of the Albemarle, Roanoke Island:

COLONEL: The commanding general directs me to say to you that Captain Martin, chief mustering officer of this department, and Lieutenant King, chief engineer of this district, proceed to Roanoke Island for the purpose of procuring all the colored laborers it is possible to get together for duty at Fort Monroe. The interest of the service requires that every such man that can be spared should go, and the commanding general hopes you will give those officers every facility for procuring them. These laborers will receive $16 per month and their rations, and their families will be provided for during their absence. It may be necessary to stop the work on the fortifications at the island for the present. It is more necessary that they should go to Fort Monroe than that the work with you should continue. If these men cannot be persuaded to go willingly they must go, and the steamer will bring them to Hatteras, where a steamer will be in readiness to take them to Fort Monroe. Please detail one of the officers of the Eighty-fifth New York Volunteers, who is going on leave, to take charge of these men, turn them over at Fort Monroe, and take a receipt for them, the receipt to be sent here.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., August 29, 1864.

Captain JOSSELYN, U. S. Navy, *Commanding Commodore Hull:*

SIR: General Palmer directs me to inform you that Lieutenant Ward, his aide-de-camp, goes to-morrow with the steamer Ella May, and about 100 men, to Hyde County for the purpose of breaking up as far as possible the supply line of the enemy from that county out into further rebeldom. General Palmer desires very much to have you (if consistent with the duties of the Whitehead) direct the captain of that steamer to lay about in the Pungo region for a day or two, in order that he may, if necessary, render Lieutenant Ward assistance. There will be no necessity of aid on land, but it might possibly be well for Lieutenant Ward to be well backed on the water. If you can give Lieutenant W. this aid, the commanding general will be much obliged to you.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 30, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

Your dispatch was received.* The chief engineer of the railroad will report to Major Duane this morning, and will arrange all details for the prompt construction of the road. I have asked at Washington for an increased force of trackmen and mechanics and the necessary material. The expense will not finally amount to much, as we can save the material, and I trust the work can be performed certainly during September.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
DEPARTMENT OF PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
August 30, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from Posey's and Wright's brigades, of Mahone's division, report that A. P. Hill's corps is all in our front; Heth and Mahone occupy their old positions, and Wilcox occupies the extreme right of the line. They report no changes in position since their troops returned from Reams' Station. They know nothing of a projected railroad from South Side to Weldon.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

[Indorsement.]

Forward to General Meade at headquarters Second Corps.

One of the men deserted from picket-line at dark last night; the other at 7 o'clock this morning.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 30, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following telegram received from plank road station:

8.30 A. M.

All quiet. Enemy appears in stronger force than yesterday in front line of intrenchments from the Gregory Chimneys to large fort on our left near Weir (undoubtedly Weldon railroad). Also, enemy's camp in the woods in our immediate front is somewhat larger than it was last evening.

H. W. FULTON.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

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* See Meade to Ingalls, 29th, p. 566.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 30, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

All quiet. The enemy have opened a signal station of observation in woods 60 degrees west of north from station. The station gives the enemy a view of nearly all the open country in our rear between this point and woods south of Fort Griffin.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

AUGUST 30, 1864—9.20 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:

A column of about 3,000 infantry and eighty pieces of artillery moved out of Petersburg toward the left. The caissons with the artillery were packed with grain.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
August 30, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch received from the Jordan house station:

The enemy are constructing heavy earth-works at a point on left bank of the Appomattox north-northwest from this station and nearly opposite the Rushmore house. It will command and enfilade the ravine in rear of Battery No. 5, where the 13-inch mortar is located.

T. R. CLARK.

They, the enemy, have established a station of observation in rear of the Gregory Chimneys, which will command a view of the plain around the Jones house and that between these headquarters and the Avery house.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 249. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, August 30, 1864.

Capt. Ely S. Parker, assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Volunteers, is announced as private secretary on the staff of Lieutenant-General Grant, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, vice W. R. Rowley, resigned.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 234. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 30, 1864.

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6. In compliance with paragraph 12, of Special Orders, No. 282, of August 26, 1864, from the War Department, the organization known

as the Provisional Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, and now serving with the Ninth Army Corps, will proceed, with as little delay as practicable, to report to the commanding general of the Eighteenth Army Corps.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 30, 1864. (Received 9.30 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

I do not think the large works on the plank road nearest the Chimneys are as safe as they should be. The enemy's pickets, being so very close there, afford unusual facilities to the enemy for attack. It seems to me a part of the reserves ought to be near these works.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 30, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

I have to report that there has been no change in my command of importance during the last twenty-four hours. I have this morning 1,100 men on fatigue, of whom 500 are at work on the new redoubt at the Strong house. The picket-line near the Strong house was advanced about 400 yards to cover the working party, as the redoubt is being erected outside the present line of intrenchments.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 30, 1864—10.15 a. m.

General HANCOCK:

Your dispatch of this morning received. The commanding general directs me to say that the division near the Williams house may be established in the vicinity of the Jones house, or anywhere else on the plank road that will make it most available as a reserve in that part of the line. The division near the Avery house is required as support for the Tenth Corps as well as for the front of Mott's division or part of it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 30, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

A deserter from Finegan's brigade came in to-night and reports all quiet in the enemy's lines. He says his brigade, of Mahone's division, were in the fight August 25.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to recommend the following officers for promotion, by brevet or otherwise:

First. Brig. Gen. Francis C. Barlow—for highly meritorious and distinguished conduct throughout the campaign, and particularly for gallantry and good conduct while leading his division in the assault on the enemy's works at Spotsylvania, May 12, 1864; to date from May 12, 1864.

Second. Brig. Gen. D. McM. Gregg—for highly meritorious and distinguished conduct throughout the campaign, particularly for the reconnaissance on the Charles City road and at the battle of August 25, at Reams' Station, Va.; the date of promotion to be fixed by the major-general commanding the army, General Gregg having been under my command only temporarily.

Third. Brig. Gen. N. A. Miles—for highly meritorious and distinguished conduct during the campaign, and particularly for gallantry and meritorious service at the battle of August 25, 1864, at Reams' Station, Va.; to date August 25, 1864.

Fourth. Col. James A. Beaver, One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers—for highly meritorious and distinguished conduct throughout the campaign, particularly for valuable services at Cold Harbor, Va., while commanding a brigade; to date from June 3, 1864. This officer was wounded at Chancellorsville; again in the assault on the enemy's works in front of Petersburg, June 16, and again at the battle of Reams' Station, Va., August 25, 1864, where he lost a leg.

Fifth. Col. T. A. Smyth, First Delaware Volunteers—for highly meritorious and distinguished conduct throughout the campaign, particularly in the battle of the Wilderness and at Cold Harbor, Va.; to date from June 3, 1864.

Sixth. Col. H. L. Brown, One hundred and forty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers—for highly meritorious and distinguished conduct throughout the campaign, particularly for gallantry at Spotsylvania, May 12; to date May 12, 1864. This officer was wounded at first Fredericksburg and was twice wounded at Gettysburg.

Seventh. Col. Thomas W. Egan, Fortieth New York Volunteers—for highly meritorious and distinguished conduct throughout the campaign, particularly for gallantry on the successful assault of the enemy's works at the North Anna, May 23, 1864; to date from May 23, 1864. This officer was wounded in an assault upon the enemy's works in front of Petersburg, June 16, 1864.

Eighth. Lieut. Col. K. O. Broady, Sixty-first New York Volunteers—for good conduct throughout the campaign, and particularly for distinguished services at Reams' Station, Va., August 25, 1864, where he was wounded; to date August 25, 1864. This officer received the appointment of colonel of the Sixty-first New York Volunteers, but has not been mustered in on account of the lack of the necessary number of men in the regiment.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 63. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 2D ARMY CORPS,
August 30, 1864.

The following-named regiments, having lost their regimental colors in action, are hereby deprived of the right to carry colors until by their conduct in battle they show themselves competent to protect them: Eighth New York Heavy Artillery, One hundred and sixty-fourth New York Volunteers, Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers. The officers and men of the command should understand that their colors should be the last thing surrendered, and that in all well-regulated military organizations it is considered a disgrace for a majority of the command to return from the field of battle without them.

By command of Major-General Gibbon, commanding division:

A. HENRY EMBLER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 3, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, with the request that my action in this case may be approved by the higher authorities, my attention having been called since the publication of this order that there might be some doubt of my authority to deprive regiments of their flags. I believe that it is a long-established custom of the service.

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

[Second indorsement.]

I think no regiment which has lost its colors should be permitted to carry others until by the decision of the commander of the army they had in action shown that they were able to preserve them; but I think the rule should be generally applicable to the whole service. I have no objection to the system being inaugurated now and applied to all regiments which have lost their colors.

Respectfully forwarded.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND CORPS,
August 30, 1864.

Battery commanders on the line are instructed to fire on the enemy's working parties and reply to artillery fire on their line.

By command of Maj. John G. Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
August 30, 1864.

Lieut. J. H. LOCKWOOD,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Division, Second Corps:

LIEUTENANT: In compliance with instructions received last evening I have the honor to report that I have this morning advanced the left of my picket-line about 400 yards and now have it established, my left connecting with the Ninth Army Corps.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. PIERCE,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 30, 1864—8.50 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in my front during yesterday and through the night. No change in the enemy's position was observed from our advanced signal station. There were 1,800 men from this corps at work yesterday upon the new redoubts on this line.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 30, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I send the following just received:

AUGUST 30, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: My division picket officer reports that a guard sent to a house states that the occupants say that Hill's corps is camped about three miles to the west of us or to the left of our lines.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

Forwarded to General Meade at headquarters Second Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 30, 1864—5 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The pickets of the center division of my line report that at 3 a. m. trains, either artillery or wagons, were moving in their front toward the left; also that they heard the rebel reveille.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

(Same to Major-General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 30, 1864—4 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Pickets in my front report a heavy movement of artillery toward the enemy's right. I will have the matter investigated in the morning and report particulars, if any.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 30, 1864—12 m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report all quiet along my immediate front during the past twenty-four hours. No picket-firing and no enemy in sight from the line of vedettes. The pickets in front of the center and left divisions report hearing the enemy moving artillery or wagons during the night to their right (our left). The line of parapet is being strengthened and camp-grounds being policed and drained. A detail of 1,000 men was ordered to report this morning to the engineer officer at the Chimneys in front of my center.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 157. } HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 30, 1864.

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3. In compliance with paragraph 6, Special Orders, No. 233, Army of the Potomac, under date of August 29, 1864, the following-named batteries are transferred to the Artillery Reserve. The commanding officers will at once report to Lieut. Col. J. A. Monroe, chief of artillery, who will give them the necessary instructions as required in the above-mentioned order: Start's (Third Vermont), four 3-inch guns; Thomas' (Second Maine), four 3-inch guns; Mayo's (Third Maine), four 3-inch guns; Wright's (Fourteenth Massachusetts), four 3-inch guns.

* * * * * * *

By command of Maj. Gen. John G. Parke:

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIV. CAVALRY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 30, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet along the cavalry line of pickets. Last night a rebel lieutenant approached a vedette on plank road; was fired upon and captured. He was sent to your headquarters this morning.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *August 30, 1864.* (Received 10 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. E. O. C. ORD:

To protect the navigation on the James River I have determined to establish a garrison about the Berkeley house, on the north bank. General Barnard selected the location to-day and has sent for your engineer officer to direct him as to the works to throw up. You will please furnish the garrison. Two companies of infantry, a section of artillery, and one squadron of the First New York Mounted Rifles will

be sufficient. I think the artillery and infantry can be taken from the garrisons of Fort Powhatan and Wilson's Wharf. General Marston, having but a small command at Wilson's Wharf, should be assigned to the command of all troops on the river east of City Point and west of Fort Monroe, with headquarters at Wilson's Wharf.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
August 30, 1864—11.50 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I will make the detail for garrison at the Berkeley house. The New York Mounted Rifles have re-enlisted, except about enough to take care of the horses of men on furlough. I have had to replace the two squadrons of it at Deep Bottom by a detail from my guard. The cavalry guard to garrison the Berkeley house might be taken [from] General Birney's or Kautz's cavalry.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
August 30, 1864.

Lieutenant MICHIE,
General Butler's Headquarters:

General Ord will be directed to send a small garrison to the Berkeley Place, Harrison's Landing. A work will be erected under your charge, and if you will call upon General Barnard at these headquarters to-morrow morning he will give you its general character.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 30, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT:

Have you any disposable 100-pounder Parrotts? How many? General Birney wants two. Do you know of any positions on his line where a 100-pounder Parrott would be worth more than a 30-pounder? I go down to see this a. m. Please answer.

H. J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

Answered in person before received.

H. L. A[BBOT].

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 30, 1864—10 a. m. (Received 11 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

During yesterday I had a fatigue detail day and night (600 men) on redoubt to left of Hare house. Sent a regiment to Wilson's Wharf and

one to City Point for quartermaster's and commissary details. Sharp artillery duel during the evening. Enemy developed more artillery than for some time past and have more mortars in position. Our fire was chiefly at railroad depot and the batteries and working parties erecting new works on Chesterfield Heights. I have asked for two additional 13-inch mortars and 200-pounder Parrotts, which would enable me to silence the batteries on Chesterfield Heights that almost take my line of battle in reverse. They could be brought to the position on the railroad and transported without difficulty.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 30, 1864.

The following-named officers are announced as composing the staff of this division, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly: Capt. H. L. Johnson, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. A. T. Atwood, assistant quartermaster; Capt. R. Holmes, commissary of subsistence; Capt. Lewis L. Weld, [Seventh] U. S. Colored Troops, [acting] assistant inspector-general; First Lieut. M. V. B. Richardson, assistant commissary of musters; First Lieut. E. W. Morey, Ninth U. S. Colored Troops, acting aide-de-camp; Second Lieut. H. E. Burton, Thirty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, aide-de-camp.

By command of Brig. Gen. William Birney:

[H. L. JOHNSON,]
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 1. } HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 30, 1864.

Until further orders the line held by this division will be apportioned to the brigades as follows: The First Brigade will hold two-thirds of the line, the right and left of which will be pointed out by a staff officer from these headquarters. The Second Brigade and the Thirty-seventh New Jersey Volunteers will hold the remaining third of the line, the New Jersey regiment holding it two days out of every six. The Thirty-seventh New Jersey Volunteers will commence its tour of duty to-night, holding the line for the next two days, with such portion of Colonel Holman's command as may be required.

By command of Brig. Gen. William Birney:

[H. L. JOHNSON,]
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., August 30, 1864.

Hereafter division commanders will not have their pickets posted until after dark, so that the number may be concealed from the enemy, except in front of Brigadier-General Ames' division, where they may be posted at sunset.

By command of Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord:

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., August 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. B. CARR,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by Major-General Ord to inform you that he is going over to the Court of Inquiry at the Second Corps this morning, and that should anything occur you will be in command.

Very respectfully,

THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 30, 1864.

Captain WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: I have to report all quiet on the picket-line. Considerable firing occurred along the left of the line between rebel scouts apparently and our vedettes. No casualties are reported on either side.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., August 30, 1864.

Maj. H. T. LAWSON,
Chief Provost-Marshal, District of North Carolina:

MAJOR: The commanding general wishes you to have immediately posted in New Berne and Beaufort posters to the following effect:

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., August 30, 1864.

All able-bodied colored men not now engaged in some regular permanent employment will be given immediate work as laborers at the rate of $16 per month and one ration per day. All such will immediately report themselves to the provost-marshal.

By command of Brigadier-General Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 31, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

There is nothing of importance to report this morning. The field-works on the left are being constructed as rapidly as possible.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 31, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

As soon as it can be done I would like to have a column of cavalry, perhaps supported by infantry would be well, thrown out west from Warren's position to cut off wagon trains carrying supplies into Petersburg. It should be a rapid, sudden dash to gather up all the teams and straggling escorts they could find.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *August 31, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

I go this morning to Fort Monroe. Expect to start back this evening.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
August 31, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Three rebel deserters, two from Finegan's brigade, Mahone's division, and one from Davis' brigade, Heth's division, just arrived here, and report that they left their picket-line last night. They report no changes in the enemy's lines.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 31, 1864—10.45 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE:

Deserters from Twenty-fifth Virginia Battalion say that Field's division went to Petersburg last Wednesday, with the exception of one brigade. Deserter from Second Maryland says seventy men for duty in the battalion. Lost 88 men in the assault on the Weldon road. Report no changes on our front. Refugees agree as to hard times in Richmond. Am on the lookout for the ones you wrote about.

FRED. L. MANNING,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
August 31, 1864—6.40 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 10 a. m. 180 men moved from the picket-line in our front, appeared on Weldon railroad, and disappeared west of large fort. The enemy are very active in improving fortifications in our front and left. All quiet.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
August 31, 1864—9 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

There has been no change in my lines since last report except that General Gibbon's division is now near the Chieves house, one brigade being in support behind the advanced works on the plank road and two regiments supporting the battery on the plank road just in front of the large square redoubt.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 498. } *August 31, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

2. The Fourth Regiment New York Artillery is hereby temporarily assigned to the First Brigade of this division and will be reported accordingly.

By order of Brigadier-General Miles:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 31, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance transpired in my front during yesterday and last night. Twenty-four hundred men were at work yesterday upon the new forts being constructed on this line.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 31, 1864. (Received 1.45 p. m.)

General WARREN:

There has been no firing on my front. How goes it with you now? Do you think it means anything more than to drive off the signal party or was it intended as an advance? I have large details at work. From present appearance it is hardly necessary to relieve them.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
August 31, 1864.

Major-General PARKE:

There has been no firing for an hour and a half. I don't think it meant much this morning, and have not changed my working parties.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
August 31, 1864—11.30 a. m. (Received 12 m.)

General CRAWFORD:

The enemy have been pressing our picket-line quite heavily at the white house on the railroad, and General Warren wishes you to be ready to be under arms at the shortest notice.

W. A. ROEBLING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

PROVIDENCE, *August 31, 1864.*

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

My leave of absence expires Friday next. Shall we await orders here?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 31, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report quiet on my line during the last twenty-four hours. In front of the Third Division General Willcox's scouts sent out report meeting the enemy's pickets about one mile and a half in front of our line. Camp-fires and shelter-tents were seen by the party. The pickets in front of Second Division report chopping in their front and wagons moving during the night. The work on the redoubts is progressing well and the line being generally strengthened.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 31, 1864—11 a. m.

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

I am directed by the commanding general to say that he is waiting for your views with regard to the reorganization of the First, Second, and Third Divisions of your corps. His own idea is that in view of the reduced condition of General White's division it would be best to transfer the regiments now composing that division to the Second and Third Divisions. He desires to publish, as soon as practicable, an order reorganizing the Fifth and Ninth Corps.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 31, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

In reference to the reorganization of the First, Second, and Third Divisions of this corps, I agree with the major-general commanding that in view of the reduced condition of the First Division it would be

best to transfer these regiments of this division to the Second and Third Divisions. By the transfer of the Second Pennsylvania Provisional Artillery to the Eighteenth Corps this division is further reduced 284 muskets. This leaves ten regiments in the division. The maximum number of muskets 340 and the minimum 46. These regiments, I think, should be so divided between the Second and Third Divisions as to equalize, as nearly as possible, the effective strength of the two divisions. There is one captain, assistant adjutant-general; one major, assistant quartermaster; one surgeon, Volunteers, and three captains, commissaries of subsistence. I am of opinion that these officers will all be required in the reorganization. Should there be any supernumeraries, I will report it. The remaining staff officers are all acting and belong to the regiments of the division, excepting Lieut. R. P. McKibbin, Fourth U. S. Infantry, assistant commissary of musters, and he is absent wounded.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 31, 1864.

Major-General PARKE:

General Meade proposes to have a series of redoubts constructed from the bastion fort on the extreme left back toward the Williams house as soon as engineer officers can be had to superintend them. Had not work on the line you spoke of yesterday better be postponed for the present?

N. MICHLER,
Major of Engineers.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 31, 1864—12 m.

Major MICHLER,
Engineers, Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

Dispatch received. All right. Nothing extensive has been done on line spoken of yesterday. How soon will you be able to have the line of infantry parapet staked out in the vicinity of the redoubt at the Chimneys? I wish to put the men at work as soon as possible. Have you adopted any names or numbers for these works? If not, please do so, and thus save us a confusion of names, if not of tongues.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 31, 1864.

Major-General PARKE:

Have directed Lieutenant Benyaurd to mark out the infantry parapet to-day and report to you when it is laid out. Will see the general in regard to naming or numbering the different works.

N. MICHLER,
Major of Engineers, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 31, 1864.

Capt. J. C. YOUNGMAN, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that scouting parties sent out to-day found the enemy's pickets occupying light intrenchments in an open field, about three-quarters of a mile from our own picket-line, in front of my left brigade. In front of my right brigade their vedettes were found about a quarter of a mile from our own, with their main picket-line about 100 yards beyond. No firing occurred on either side. Copies of Special Orders, No. 32, headquarters Armies of the United States, were shown to the enemy's vedettes and left within a short distance of them in conspicuous places.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. F. HARTRANFT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 31, 1864.

Brigadier-General POTTER, *Commanding Second Division:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires me to say that General Hartranft will withdraw his left regiment (One hundred and seventy-ninth New York) for the purpose of occupying that part of the line left vacant by the removal of the Second Pennsylvania Provisional Heavy Artillery, and he desires you to extend your right so as to occupy the ground that will be left vacant by the withdrawal of the One hundred and seventy-ninth New York.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
August 31, 1864.

Captain YOUNGMAN, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that my scouts yesterday met the enemy at about one mile and a half. A scouting party more to the right met their pickets on the further edge of the woods about one mile from our works. Camp-fires and shelter-tents were seen by the former party. I would respectfully suggest that the officer of the trenches straighten out the picket-line of the corps.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIV. CAVALRY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 31, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet along the cavalry pickets, save annoyance by small parties of guerrillas or scouts. Since last report the enemy's vedettes have appeared on the plank road.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 31, 1864—11 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: In reply to your communication of this date I have the honor to report that my division can be concentrated at the Williams house in from three to four hours. General Kautz's regiments are posted as follows: one at Sycamore Church, one at Zion Church, one on the Norfolk railroad, and one on the Lee's Mill road. The regiment at Sycamore Church could not be gotten here in less than ten or twelve hours. Exclusive of this regiment, the others could be concentrated in eight hours.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

The enemy have pickets on the plank road in front of mine.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 31, 1864. (Received 6.15 p. m.)

Major-General BARNARD,
City Point, Va.:

General Ord informs me that there will be but two companies of infantry (negroes), numbering in all about sixty men, to go to Harrison's Landing. With this force it will be impossible to do any work, as it will all be required for guard duty. The wharf will have to be repaired before the artillery and cavalry can land. I send down some engineers to-morrow early to repair wharf and erect the works.

PETER S. MICHIE,
First Lieut., U. S. Engineers, and Acting Chief Engineer of Dept.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
August 31, 1864.

Major-General ORD:

The signal officer at Spring Hill reports that "at 7.45 a. m. a train of eight cars heavily loaded with troops passed the Junction toward Petersburg."

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Department of Va. and N. C.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C.,
No. 239. } *In the Field, Va., August 31, 1864.*

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XI. Brig. Gen. Gilman Marston, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby assigned to the command of all the U. S. troops on the James River, east of City Point and west of Fort Monroe. He will establish his headquarters at Wilson's Wharf.

XII. Brig. Gen. G. Marston will detail one section of artillery and two companies of infantry from the garrisons at Fort Powhatan and Wilson's Wharf, to establish a garrison at the Berkeley house on the north bank of the James.

XIII. In accordance with instructions received from the lieutenant-general commanding the Armies of the United States, Major-General Birney, commanding Tenth Corps, will detail and send to Bermuda Hundred, early to-morrow morning (1st proximo), a squadron of cavalry, for transportation to the Berkeley house, at Harrison's Landing.

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By command of Major-General Ord:

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIEGE TRAIN,
Broadway Landing, Va., August 31, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. J. HUNT,
Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The following is a list of the companies of my regiment now on duty in the Petersburg lines, with their guns, &c.: Company A (fourteen-gun battery), Taylor's house, two 4½-inch guns, four 10-inch mortars; Company D, near Hare's house, four 8-inch mortars, five Coehorns; Company G, between Hare's house and railroad (Suffolk), two 8-inch mortars, eleven Coehorns; half of Company I, near Spring Hill (reserve), two 20-pounder Parrotts; half of Company I, near Jordan's house, one 13-inch mortar; half of Company F, near Jordan's house, three 30-pounder Parrotts; half of Company F, extreme right of line, four 8-inch mortars; Company M, near Avery's house, four 4½-inch guns; total, forty-two.

Your obedient servant,

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 31, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Deserters in this morning say that Heth's division, which has been in reserve since the railroad fight, came into the trenches on my left last night. The deserters were from Cooke's brigade, Heth's division.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 31, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There is nothing of importance to report on my line. Shelling the town has compelled the enemy to stop the incessant musketry on my

line. Everything now is comparatively quiet. The enemy are digging at several points. I have 600 men on fatigue details under Captain Gillespie.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 113. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 31, 1864.

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8. Capt. H. L. Johnson, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, will report in person to Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry, commanding First Division, for assignment to duty with one of the brigades of his division.

By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., August 31, 1864.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: In pursuance with instructions from division headquarters, dated 30th instant, I have the honor to make the following report of my command during the last twenty-four hours: No offensive demonstrations have been made from my front; but few artillery shots have been exchanged. No change in the position of the troops under my command except the change of camp of the Eighty-fifth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, in accordance with the directions of the brigadier-general commanding division. With regard to the intrenchments I sent out seventy-five sand-bags and the proper number of shovels for the construction of new and additional loop-holes for lookout, the enemy having ascertained the position of those already constructed and firing into them constantly. The officer commanding the trenches reported yesterday at 5 p. m.:

> The enemy are at work at and in rear of the fort which was blown up by us; also are strengthening their lines on and near the ravine. About three minutes' time was taken to-day in exchanging papers, when they again commenced firing.

I would respectfully ask whether the exchange of papers is authorized. Yesterday was remarkably quiet except a few shots from the enemy. The officer of the trenches reports this morning:

> The enemy kept up quite a severe fire during the night and have been at work strengthening the works on their line in front of this brigade line. I received seventy-five bags and ten shovels last night and have constructed loop-holes as far as they went, and have done other work in repairing. Had two men of the Sixty-seventh Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry wounded by the enemy during the night. One man was wounded in the Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry yesterday.

I have the honor to be, captain, your obedient servant,

JOSHUA B. HOWELL,
Colonel Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Comdg. Brigade.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., August 31, 1864.

Capt. P. A. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that nothing of special interest has occurred on the line held by my troops during the past twenty-four hours. The changes in position indicated in the circular of yesterday from division headquarters were made last evening, and measures have been taken to carry out fully and immediately the provisions of the circular of 28th instant from corps headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. BARTON,
Colonel Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 31, 1864.

Major DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Ord directs you to send orders to Major-General Birney that by direction of General Grant he wishes him to send early to-morrow morning a squadron of his cavalry to Bermuda for transportation to the Berkeley house, at Harrison's Landing.

THEO. READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 31, 1864.

Major DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Send to the commanding officer at Wilson's Wharf and tell him to send two companies of infantry to Harrison's Landing early to-morrow a. m. to take possession there. The engineer officer will be there with a company of engineers to throw up a cover for them. There is no enemy in that neighborhood, and they can land without opposition. Ascertain whether there is a boat at Wilson's Wharf; if not, notify me so I can order one.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 31, 1864.

Major DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Ord wishes to see General Marston at these headquarters.

THEO. READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 31, 1864.

Captain WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: I have to report that a force of ten or twelve of the enemy attacked the picket-line, near the Blackwater, of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, but were easily driven off. They were dismounted and seemed to desire to break through the picket-line. They have not been heard of since. Rebel scouts were seen at other points along the line, but they made no attack; otherwise, everything is quiet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
August 31, 1864.

Brig. Gen. G. MARSTON:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to inform you that, to protect the navigation on the James River, the lieutenant-general commanding has determined to establish a garrison about the Berkeley house, on the north bank, to consist of two companies of infantry, a section of artillery, and one squadron of cavalry. The artillery and infantry for this garrison will be selected by you from the garrison at Fort Pocahontas and Wilson's Wharf. You will render every facility to the engineer officer in charge and move the troops to the new garrison as soon as the works are ready. I am further instructed to inform you [that you] have been placed in command of all the troops on the river east of City Point and west of Fort Monroe, with your headquarters at Wilson's Wharf.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, August 31, 1864. (Received 6.15 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. G. MARSTON,
Wilson's Wharf:

General Ord directs that you send two companies of infantry early to-morrow morning to Harrison's Landing to take possession there. An engineer officer with a company of engineers will be there to throw up cover for you. There is no enemy there. Telegraph General Ord if you need any transportation. Please acknowledge receipt.
R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., August 31, 1864.

Capt. WILLIAM HOLDEN,
Chief Quartermaster, District of North Carolina:

CAPTAIN: The commanding general directs me to inform you that the negroes for Fort Monroe will commence collecting to-day. Major

Lawson will send them all to you. The commanding general wishes you to designate some rendezvous for them, and have rolls prepared as fast as they report, informing them that their pay and rations will commence from that time. I will telegraph Captain Wheeler to send all those from Beaufort and Morehead to you. The commanding general hopes that you will make such arrangements as will insure the presence of all when the time comes for them to go.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[AUGUST 31, 1864.—For the "effective strength" of the Union forces operating against Richmond, see Part I, p. 39.]

Abstract from return of the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of August, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.
	Officers.	Men.			
General headquarters	36	.....	36	39	.....
Provost Guard (Patrick)	51	870	1,353	1,935	.....
Engineer Brigade (Benham)	41	1,619	2,124	2,574	.....
Battalion U. S. Engineers (Harwood)	6	290	343	405	.....
Artillery (Hunt)	38	1,210	1,383	1,675	44
Guards and orderlies (Ingalls)	3	80	85	96	.....
Signal Corps (Fisher)	11	151	183	220	.....
Second Army Corps (Hancock)	721	12,512	19,233	45,021	45
Fifth Army Corps (Warren)	675	11,658	18,418	33,595	54
Ninth Army Corps (Parke)	433	10,621	15,461	33,199	26
Second Cavalry Division (Gregg)	146	3,696	6.237	11,012	4
Total	2,161	42,707	64,856	129,771	173

Organization of the Army of the Potomac, commanded by Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, U. S. Army, August 31, 1864.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS.

PROVOST GUARD.

Brig. Gen. MARSENA R. PATRICK.

80th New York (20th Militia), Col. Theodore B. Gates.
68th Pennsylvania, Col. Andrew H. Tippin.
114th Pennsylvania, Col. Charles H. T. Collis.
1st Indiana Cavalry, Company K, Capt. Theodore Majtheny.
1st Massachusetts Cavalry, Companies C and D, Capt. Charles F. Adams, jr.
3d Pennsylvania Cavalry, Companies A, B, and M, Maj. James W. Walsh.

VOLUNTEER ENGINEER BRIGADE.

Brig. Gen. HENRY W. BENHAM.

15th New York (five companies), Maj. William A. Ketchum.
50th New York, Col. William H. Pettes.*

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*Commanding detachment at Washington, D. C., the remainder of regiment serving in the field under subordinate officers.

BATTALION U. S. ENGINEERS.

Capt. FRANKLIN HARWOOD.

GUARDS AND ORDERLIES.

Independent Company Oneida (New York) Cavalry, Capt. Daniel P. Mann.

SIGNAL CORPS.

Maj. BENJAMIN F. FISHER.

ARTILLERY.*

Brig. Gen. HENRY J. HUNT.

Artillery Park.

Capt. CALVIN SHAFFER.

Maine Light, 2d Battery (B), Lieut. Charles E. Stubbs.
Maine Light, 3d Battery (C), Capt. Ezekiel R. Mayo.
Massachusetts Light, 14th Battery, Capt. Joseph W. B. Wright.
Vermont Light, 3d Battery, Capt. Romeo H. Start.
1st United States, Batteries H and I, Lieut. Edwin L. Garvin.

Sixth Corps Artillery.

Capt. WILLIAM A. HARN.

Maine Light, 4th Battery (D), Lieut. Charles W. White.
1st New Jersey Light, Battery A, Lieut. Augustin N. Parsons.
New York Light, 3d Battery, Lieut. Alexander S. McLain.
1st Ohio Light, Battery H, Capt. Stephen W. Dorsey.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery E, Capt. William B. Rhodes.
5th United States, Battery E, Lieut. John R. Brincklé.
1st Delaware Cavalry (detachment), Capt. Erasmus C. Dunning.

SECOND ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. WINFIELD S. HANCOCK.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. NELSON A. MILES.

First Brigade.

Col. JAMES C. LYNCH.

28th Massachusetts, Capt. James Fleming.
26th Michigan, Capt. Lucius H. Ives.
5th New Hampshire, Maj. James E. Larkin.
61st New York, Lieut. Col. K. Oscar Broady.
81st Pennsylvania, Capt. Lawrence Mercer.
140th Pennsylvania, Capt. Thomas Henry.
183d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. George T. Egbert.
2d New York Heavy Artillery, Maj. George Hogg.
4th New York Heavy Artillery, Capt. John B. Vande Wiele.

Consolidated Brigade.

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM WILSON.

7th New York (five companies), Capt. Jacob Scheu.
39th New York (six companies), Capt. David A. Allen.
52d New York (six companies), Lieut. John Bambach.
57th New York (eight companies), Lieut. Martin V. B. Brower.
63d New York (six companies), Capt. Alexander Watts.
69th New York (six companies), Lieut. Murtha Murphy.
88th New York (five companies), Capt. John A. Desmond.
111th New York, Capt. Edgar J. Hueston.
125th New York, Lieut. Albert Reynolds.
126th New York, Lieut. John F. Randolph.

* All organizations of artillery, excepting those entered under this head, will be found in the rosters of the commands with which they served.

Fourth Brigade.

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM GLENNY.

64th New York, Capt. Horatio N. Hunt.
66th New York, Lieut. Simon Pincus.
53d Pennsylvania, Capt. Philip H. Schreyer.
116th Pennsylvania, Capt. John R. Weltner.
145th Pennsylvania, Capt. James H. Hamlin.
148th Pennsylvania, Capt. James F. Weaver.
7th New York Heavy Artillery, Maj. Joseph M. Murphy.

SECOND DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. JOHN GIBBON.

Provost Guard.

2d Company Minnesota Sharpshooters, Capt. Mahlon Black.

First Brigade.

Lieut. Col. HORACE P. RUGG.

19th Maine, Capt. Joseph W. Spaulding.
19th Massachusetts, } Lieut. Col. Edmund Rice.
20th Massachusetts, }
7th Michigan, Lieut. Col. Samuel N. Smith.
1st Minnesota (two companies), Capt. James C. Farwell.
59th New York, Capt. George W. Ryerson.
152d New York, Lieut. Col. George W. Thompson.
184th Pennsylvania (seven companies), Maj. Charles Kleckner.
36th Wisconsin, Lieut. Col. Clement E. Warner.
1st Company Andrew (Mass.) Sharpshooters, Capt. Isaac N. Mudgett.

Second Brigade.

Col. MATHEW MURPHY.

155th New York, Capt. Michael Doheny.
164th New York, Capt. Robert Heggart.
170th New York, Col. James P. McIvor.
182d New York (69th New York National Guard Artillery), Capt. John Coonan.
8th New York Heavy Artillery, Capt. Joseph W. Holmes.

Third Brigade.

Col. THOMAS A. SMYTH.

14th Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Samuel A. Moore.
1st Delaware, Lieut. Col. Daniel Woodall.
2d Delaware (two companies), Capt. Philip Johnson.
12th New Jersey, Capt. Daniel Dare.
10th New York (six companies), Lieut. Col. George F. Hopper.
108th New York, Lieut. Col. Francis E. Pierce.
4th Ohio (four companies), Maj. Frank J. Spalter.
69th Pennsylvania, Capt. Patrick S. Tinen.
106th Pennsylvania (three companies), Lieut. John Irvin.
7th West Virginia (four companies), Capt. Isaac B. Fisher.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. GERSHOM MOTT.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. P. REGIS DE TROBRIAND.

20th Indiana, Lieut. Col. George W. Meikel.
17th Maine, Lieut. Col. Charles B. Merrill.
40th New York, Capt. Madison M. Cannon.
73d New York, Capt. Lawrence H. Thompson.
86th New York, Lieut. Col. Jacob H. Lansing.
124th New York, Lieut. Col. Charles H. Weygant.
99th Pennsylvania, Col. Edwin R. Biles.
110th Pennsylvania, Maj. Isaac T. Hamilton.
2d U. S. Sharpshooters, Capt. Adolphus A. Guest.
1st Maine Heavy Artillery, Lieut. Col. Thomas H. Talbot.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. BYRON R. PIERCE.

5th Michigan, Col. John Pulford.
93d New York, Lieut. Col. Benjamin C. Butler.
57th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. William B. Neeper.
84th Pennsylvania, Capt. John R. Ross.
105th Pennsylvania, Capt. John C. Conser.
141st Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Casper W. Tyler.
1st Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Maj. Nathaniel Shatswell.
1st U. S. Sharpshooters (seven companies), Capt. Henry C. Garrison.

Third Brigade.

Col. ROBERT MCALLISTER.

11th Massachusetts (seven companies), Maj. Charles C. Rivers.
5th New Jersey (three companies), Capt. Thomas G. Morrow.
6th New Jersey (three companies), Capt. Louis M. Morris.
7th New Jersey, Capt. Thomas C. Thompson.
8th New Jersey, Maj. Virgil M. Healy.
11th New Jersey, Lieut. Col. John Schoonover.
72d New York (one company), 120th New York, } Lieut. Col. John R. Tappen.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Maj. JOHN G. HAZARD.

Maine Light, 6th Battery (F), Capt. Edwin B. Dow.
Massachusetts Light, 10th Battery, Lieut. Henry H. Granger.
New Hampshire Light, 1st Battery, Capt. Frederick M. Edgell.
1st New Jersey Light, Battery B, Capt. A. Judson Clark.
New Jersey Light, 3d Battery, Capt. Christian Woerner.
1st New York Light, Battery G, Capt. Nelson Ames.
4th New York Heavy, Battery D Capt. Derrick F. Hamlink.
4th New York Heavy, Battery L, Lieut. Frank Seymour.
New York Light, 11th Battery, Capt. John E. Burton.
New York Light, 12th Battery, Lieut. George K. Dauchy.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery F, Capt. R. Bruce Ricketts.
1st Rhode Island Light, Batteries A and B, Sergt. William D. Child.
4th United States, Battery K, Lieut. John W. Roder.
5th United States, Batteries C and I, Lieut. W. Butler Beck.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. GOUVERNEUR K. WARREN.

PROVOST GUARD.

2d Wisconsin (two companies), Lieut. Henry Naegely.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES GRIFFIN.

First Brigade.

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM A. THROOP.

121st Pennsylvania, Capt. Nathaniel Lang.
142d Pennsylvania, Maj. Horatio N. Warren.
143d Pennsylvania, Capt. Chester K. Hughes.
149th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. John Irvin.
150th Pennsylvania, Maj. George W. Jones.
187th Pennsylvania, Capt. Joseph A. Ege.

Second Brigade.

Col. EDGAR M. GREGORY.

22d Massachusetts,* Maj. Mason W. Burt.
32d Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. J. Cushing Edmands.
91st Pennsylvania, Capt. Eli G. Sellers.
155th Pennsylvania, Col. Alfred L. Pearson.
21st Pennsylvania Cavalry (dismounted), Maj. Oliver B. Knowles.

*2d Company Massachusetts Sharpshooters attached.

Third Brigade.

Col. JAMES GWYN.

20th Maine, Maj. Ellis Spear.
18th Massachusetts, Capt. Luther S. Bent.
1st Michigan, Maj. George C. Hopper.
16th Michigan,* Col. Norval E. Welch.
44th New York, Lieut. Col. Freeman Conner.
83d Pennsylvania, Capt. Amos M. Judson.
118th Pennsylvania, Maj. Henry O'Neill.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ROMEYN B. AYRES.

First Brigade.

Col. CHARLES P. STONE.

5th New York, Col. Frederick Winthrop.
140th New York, Lieut. Col. Elwell S. Otis.
146th New York, Maj. James Grindlay.
10th United States (three companies), Lieut. Adolph Luning.
11th United States (six companies), Capt. William G. Edgerton.
12th United States, Capt. Philip W. Stanhope.
14th United States, Capt. Charles H. Ingraham.
17th United States, Capt. John P. Wales.
15th New York Heavy Artillery, Lieut. Col. Michael Wiedrich.

Second Brigade.

Col. SAMUEL A. GRAHAM.

1st Maryland, Lieut. Col. John W. Wilson.
4th Maryland, Lieut. Col. Gregory Barrett, jr.
7th Maryland, Maj. Edward M. Mobley.
8th Maryland (seven companies), Lieut. Col. John G. Johannes.
Purnell (Maryland) Legion, Maj. Robert G. King.

Third Brigade.

Col. J. WILLIAM HOFMANN.

3d Delaware, Capt. James E. Baily.
4th Delaware, Maj. Moses B. Gist.
76th New York (seven companies), Lieut. Col. John E. Cook.
95th New York, Lieut. Col. James Creney.
147th New York, Lieut. Col. George Harney.
56th Pennsylvania, Maj. John T. Jack.
157th Pennsylvania (four companies), Capt. Thomas E. Carter.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. SAMUEL W. CRAWFORD.

First Brigade.

Col. THOMAS F. MCCOY.

16th Maine, Col. Charles W. Tilden.
39th Massachusetts, Capt. George S. Nelson.
104th New York, Capt. William W. Graham.
90th Pennsylvania, Capt. William P. Davis.
107th Pennsylvania, Maj. Henry J. Sheafer.
190th Pennsylvania, Capt. Neri B. Kinsey.
191st Pennsylvania, Capt. Richard M. Birkman.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. HENRY BAXTER.

94th New York, Maj. John McMahon.
97th New York, Col. Charles Wheelock.
11th Pennsylvania, Capt. Benjamin F. Haines.
88th Pennsylvania, Capt. Edmund Y. Patterson.

* Brady's and Jardine's companies Michigan Sharpshooters attached.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD S. BRAGG.

7th Indiana, Maj. Merit C. Welsh.
19th Indiana, Maj. William Orr.
24th Michigan, Lieut. Col. Albert M. Edwards.
6th Wisconsin, Capt. Thomas Kerr.
7th Wisconsin, Lieut. Col. Mark Finnicum.
1st Battalion New York Sharpshooters (three companies).

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Col. CHARLES S. WAINWRIGHT.

Massachusetts Light, 3d Battery (C), Lieut. Aaron F. Walcott.
Massachusetts Light, 5th Battery (E), Lieut. Joseph E. Spear.
Massachusetts Light, 9th Battery, Lieut. Richard S. Milton.
1st New York Light, Battery B, Lieut. Robert E. Rogers.
1st New York Light, Battery C, Capt. Almont Barnes.
1st New York Light, Battery D, Lieut. Lester I. Richardson.
1st New York Light, Battery E, Capt. Angell Matthewson.
1st New York Light, Battery H, Capt. Charles E. Mink.
1st New York Light, Battery L, Lieut. Charles L. Anderson.
New York Light, 15th Battery, Capt. Patrick Hart.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery B, Lieut. William C. Miller.
4th United States, Battery B, Lieut. James Stewart.
5th United States, Battery D, Lieut. William E. Van Reed.

NINTH ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. JOHN G. PARKE.

ESCORT.

3d New Jersey Cavalry (detachment), Lieut. John S. Hough.

PROVOST GUARD.

8th United States, Lieut. Hanson E. Weaver.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOHN F. HARTRANFT.

First Brigade.

Lieut. Col. JOSEPH H. BARNES.

21st Massachusetts (three companies), Capt. Orange S. Sampson.
29th Massachusetts, Capt. Willard D. Tripp.
35th Massachusetts, Lieut. George M. Farrington.
56th Massachusetts, Capt. Abijah Hollis.
57th Massachusetts, Lieut. Albert Doty.
59th Massachusetts, Maj. Joseph Colburn.
100th Pennsylvania, Capt. Joseph H. Pentecost.

Second Brigade.

Lieut. Col. GILBERT P. ROBINSON.

3d Maryland (four companies), Capt. David J. Weaver.
179th New York (seven companies), Lieut. Col. Franklin B. Doty.
14th New York Heavy Artillery, Maj. George M. Randall.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ROBERT B. POTTER.

First Brigade.

Col. JOHN I. CURTIN.

36th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. William F. Draper.
58th Massachusetts, Maj. Everett S. Horton.
51st New York, Capt. George W. Whitman.
45th Pennsylvania, Capt. Theodore Gregg.
48th Pennsylvania, Maj. Oliver C. Bosbyshell.
4th Rhode Island, Capt. Walter A. Read.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. SIMON G. GRIFFIN.

31st Maine, Capt. James Dean.
32d Maine, Capt. Josiah N. Jones.
2d Maryland, Capt. Benjamin F. Taylor.
6th New Hampshire, Capt. Samuel G. Goodwin.
9th New Hampshire, Capt. John B. Cooper.
11th New Hampshire, Capt. Arthur C. Locke.
17th Vermont, Capt. Henry A. Eaton.
2d New York Mounted Rifles, Maj. William H. Mapes.

Acting Engineers.

7th Rhode Island, Lieut. Col. Percy Daniels.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ORLANDO B. WILLCOX.

First Brigade.

Col. BENJAMIN C. CHRIST.

8th Michigan, Capt. John S. Freeman.
27th Michigan,* Capt. Richard Vosper.
109th New York, Capt. Edwin Evans.
51st Pennsylvania, Capt. Joseph K. Bolton.
37th Wisconsin, Col. Samuel Harriman.
38th Wisconsin (five companies), Lieut. Charles L. Ballard.
13th Ohio Cavalry (dismounted battalion), Capt. Stephen R. Clark.

Second Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM HUMPHREY.

1st Michigan Sharpshooters, Col. Charles V. De Land.
2d Michigan, Capt. Ebenezer C. Tulloch.
20th Michigan, Lieut. Col. Byron M. Cutcheon.
46th New York, Capt. John M. Kesselmark.
60th Ohio,† Lieut. Col. Martin P. Avery.
50th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Edward Overton, jr.
24th New York Cavalry (dismounted), Lieut. Col. Walter C. Newberry.

Acting Engineers.

17th Michigan, Capt. Joseph A. Sudborough.

FOURTH DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD FERRERO.

First Brigade.

Col. JOSHUA K. SIGFRIED.

27th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Albert M. Blackman.
30th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Hiram A. Oakman.
39th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Ozora P. Stearns.
43d U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. Horace Bumstead.

Second Brigade.

Col. HENRY G. THOMAS.

19th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Joseph G. Perkins.
23d U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. William C. J. Hall.
28th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Charles S. Russell.
29th U. S. Colored Troops (six companies), Lieut. Col. Charles J. Wright.
31st U. S. Colored Troops (six companies), Capt. Adgate L. Loomis.

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*1st and 2d Companies Michigan Sharpshooters attached.
† 9th and 10th Companies Ohio Sharpshooters attached.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Lieut. Col. J. ALBERT MONROE.

Maine Light, 7th Battery (G), Capt. Adelbert B. Twitchell
Massachusetts Light, 11th Battery, Capt. Edward J. Jones.
New York Light, 19th Battery, Capt. Edward W. Rogers.
New York Light, 27th Battery, Capt. John B. Eaton.
New York Light, 34th Battery, Capt. Jacob Roemer.
Pennsylvania Light, Battery D, Lieut. George W. Silvis.

CAVALRY.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. DAVID MCM. GREGG.

First Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM STEDMAN.

1st Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Samuel E. Chamberlain.
1st New Jersey, Col. John W. Kester.
10th New York, Maj. M. Henry Avery.
6th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Norman A. Barrett.
1st Pennsylvania, Col. John P. Taylor.

Second Brigade.

Col. CHARLES H. SMITH.

1st Maine, Maj. Sidney W. Thaxter.
2d Pennsylvania, Capt. George C. Eckert.
4th Pennsylvania, Capt. Joseph Andrews.
8th Pennsylvania, Capt. Alexander McCallum.
13th Pennsylvania, Col. Michael Kerwin.
16th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. John K. Robison.

Artillery.

2d United States, Battery A, Lieut. Robert Clarke.

Abstract from returns of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of August, 1864.

[Compiled mainly from subordinate returns.]

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
General headquarters	26	.....	26	29	.....	.....
Signal Corps (Norton)	23	154	184	214	.....	.....
Naval Brigade * (Graham)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
First New York Engineers (Eaton)	5	113	276	754	.....	.....
Siege Artillery (Abbot)	46	1,037	1,257	1,476	22	54
Unattached troops	36	884	1,138	1,372	.....	2
Tenth Army Corps (Birney)	456	10,772	14,288	24,704	.....	76
Eighteenth Army Corps (Ord)	372	8,807	11,416	30,382	6	38
Cavalry Division (Kautz)	66	1,541	2,019	3,672	.....	.....
District of Eastern Virginia (Shepley)	131	3,638	4,704	9,359	.....	12
District of North Carolina (Palmer)	274	5,282	7,505	9,262	149	61
Grand total	1,435	32,228	42,813	81,224	177	243
Grand total according to department return	1,429	32,119	42,702	81,653	177	249

* Not accounted for on returns.

Organization of troops in the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, commanded by Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, August 31, 1864.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS.

SIGNAL CORPS.

Capt. LEMUEL B. NORTON.

NAVAL BRIGADE.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES K. GRAHAM.

ENGINEERS.

1st New York, Capt. Samuel C. Eaton.

SIEGE ARTILLERY.

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT.

1st Connecticut Heavy, Col. Henry L. Abbot.
13th New York Heavy, Companies A and H, Capt. William Pendrell.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy, Company M, Capt. Frederick Korte.

UNATTACHED TROOPS.

13th Company Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Capt. John Pickering, jr.
1st New York Mounted Rifles, Lieut. Col. Alexander G. Patton.

TENTH ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. DAVID B. BIRNEY.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ALFRED H. TERRY.

First Brigade.

Col. JOSHUA B. HOWELL.

39th Illinois, Capt. Lewis T. Whipple.
62d Ohio, Col. Francis B. Pond.
67th Ohio, Col. Alvin C. Voris.
85th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Edward Campbell.

Second Brigade.

Col. JOSEPH R. HAWLEY.

6th Connecticut, Maj. Daniel Klein.
7th Connecticut, Capt. Seager S. Atwell.
3d New Hampshire, Maj. James F. Randlett.
7th New Hampshire, Col. Joseph C. Abbott.
16th New York Heavy Artillery (detachment), Maj. Thomas J. Strong.

Third Brigade.

Col. HARRIS M. PLAISTED.

10th Connecticut, Maj. Edwin S. Greeley.
11th Maine, Capt. Simeon H. Merrill.
24th Massachusetts, Capt. George W. Gardner.
100th New York, Col. George B. Dandy.
1st Maryland Cavalry (dismounted), Lieut. Col. Jacob H. Counselman.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ROBERT S. FOSTER.

First Brigade.

Col. N. MARTIN CURTIS.

3d New York, Capt. Jay M. Wicks.
112th New York, Lieut. Col. John F. Smith.
117th New York, Col. Rufus Daggett.
142d New York, Lieut. Col. Albert M. Barney.

Second Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM B. BARTON.

47th New York, Capt. George B. Kirby.
48th New York, Lieut. Col. William B. Coan.
76th Pennsylvania, Capt. Joseph R. Finley.
97th Pennsylvania, Col. Galusha Pennypacker.

Third Brigade.

Col. FRANCIS A. OSBORN.

13th Indiana (three companies), Capt. Samuel M. Zent.
9th Maine, Capt. Robert J. Gray.
4th New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. Jeremiah D. Drew.
115th New York, Capt. William H. Shaw.
169th New York, Lieut. Col. Alonzo Alden.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM BIRNEY.

First Brigade.

Col. JAMES SHAW, Jr.

29th Connecticut Colored Troops, Maj. David Torrance.
7th U. S. Colored Troops, Capt. Julius A. Weiss.
8th U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. Edelmiro Mayer.
9th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Samuel C. Armstrong.

*Second Brigade.**

Col. JOHN H. HOLMAN.

1st U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. Henry S. Perkins.
22d U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Joseph B. Kiddoo.

Unattached troops.

37th New Jersey, Col. E. Burd Grubb.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Lieut. Col. FREEMAN MCGILVERY.

Connecticut Light, 1st Battery, Capt. James B. Clinton.
New Jersey Light, 4th Battery, Lieut. Charles R. Doane.
New Jersey Light, 5th Battery, Capt. Zenas C. Warren.
3d New York Light, Battery E, Capt. George E. Ashby.
3d New York Light, Battery H, Capt. William J. Riggs.
New York Light, 16th Battery, Capt. Richard H. Lee.
New York Light, 33d Battery, Capt. Alger M. Wheeler.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery A, Lieut. William Stitt.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery E, Capt. Thomas G. Orwig.
3d Rhode Island Heavy, Battery C, Capt. Martin S. James.
1st United States, Battery D, Lieut. Joseph P. Sanger.
1st United States, Battery M, Capt. Loomis L. Langdon.
3d United States, Battery E, Lieut. John R. Myrick.
4th United States, Battery D, Capt. Frederick M. Follett.

*Also reported in First Brigade, Third Division, Eighteenth Army Corps.

UNATTACHED TROOPS.

4th Massachusetts Cavalry, Companies E, F, G, H, I, K, L, and M, Col. Arnold A. Rand.

EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. EDWARD O. C. ORD.*

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH B. CARR.

First Brigade.

Col. AARON F. STEVENS.

2d New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. Joab N. Patterson.
13th New Hampshire, Maj. Normand Smith.
81st New York, Lieut. Col. John B. Raulston.
98th New York, Lieut. Col. William Kreutzer.
139th New York, Maj. Embre Rogers.

Second Brigade.

Col. EDGAR M. CULLEN.

8th Connecticut, Capt. Charles M. Coit.
5th Maryland, Maj. David B. White.
10th New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. John Coughlin.
96th New York, Capt. George W. Hindes.
118th New York, Lieut. Col. George F. Nichols.

Third Brigade.

Col. SAMUEL H. ROBERTS.

21st Connecticut, Capt. James F. Brown.
40th Massachusetts, Capt. Wisner Park.
92d New York, Capt. Harry C. Fay.
58th Pennsylvania, Maj. Charles A. Winn.
188th Pennsylvania, Maj. Francis H. Reichard.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ADELBERT AMES.

First Brigade.

Col. JAMES STEWART, Jr.

23d Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. John W. Raymond.
25th Massachusetts, Capt. Albert H. Foster.
27th Massachusetts, Capt. Peter S. Bailey.
9th New Jersey, Capt. Augustus Thompson.
55th Pennsylvania, Capt. John C. Shearer.

Second Brigade.

Col. GEORGE M. GUION.

11th Connecticut, Capt. Francis T. Brown.
8th Maine, Maj. William M. McArthur.
12th New Hampshire, Capt. Thomas E. Barker.
148th New York, Lieut. Col. John B. Murray.
19th Wisconsin, Lieut. Edward O. Emerson.

Third Brigade.

Col. HARRISON S. FAIRCHILD.

89th New York, Capt. James Hazley.
2d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, Maj. James L. Anderson.

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* Also in command of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina during the temporary absence of General Butler.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES J. PAINE.

*First Brigade.**

Col. JOHN H. HOLMAN.

1st U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. Henry S. Perkins.
22d U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Joseph B. Kiddoo.
37th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Abial G. Chamberlain.

Second Brigade.

Col. ALONZO G. DRAPER.

5th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Giles W. Shurtleff.
36th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Benjamin F. Pratt.
38th U. S. Colored Troops (seven companies), Lieut. Col. Dexter E. Clapp.

Third Brigade.

Col. SAMUEL A. DUNCAN.

4th U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. Augustus S. Boernstein.
6th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. John W. Ames.
10th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Edward H. Powell.

DEEP BOTTOM, VA.

2d U. S. Colored Cavalry (dismounted), Col. George W. Cole.

UNATTACHED.

79th New York (two companies), Capt. Henry G. Heffron.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Col. ALEXANDER PIPER.

3d New York Light, Battery K, Capt. James R. Angel.
3d New York Light, Battery M, Capt. John H. Howell.
New York Light, 7th Battery, Lieut. Martin V. McIntyre.
New York Light, 17th Battery, Capt. George T. Anthony.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery F, Lieut. Thomas Simpson.
1st United States, Battery B, Lieut. Robert M. Hall.
4th United States, Battery L, Lieut. Stephen L. Hubbard.
5th United States, Battery A, Lieut. Israel Ludlow.
5th United States, Battery F, Lieut. Alexander J. McDonald.

CAVALRY DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. AUGUST V. KAUTZ.

First Brigade.

Col. ROBERT M. WEST.

3d New York, Col. George W. Lewis.
5th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Christopher Kleinz.

Second Brigade.

Col. SAMUEL P. SPEAR.

1st District of Columbia, Maj. J. Stannard Baker.
11th Pennsylvania, Maj. Franklin A. Stratton.

Artillery.

Wisconsin Light, 4th Battery, Capt. George B. Easterly.

*Also reported in Second Brigade, Third Division, Tenth Army Corps.

DISTRICT OF EASTERN VIRGINIA.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE F. SHEPLEY.

PORTSMOUTH.

Brig. Gen. ISRAEL VOGDES.

20th New York Cavalry, Col. Newton B. Lord.
1st U. S. Colored Cavalry (five companies—dismounted), Maj. Harvey W. Brown.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, 3d Battalion, Lieut. Col. Augustus B. R. Sprague.
New York Light Artillery, 8th Battery, Capt. Butler Fitch.
13th New York Heavy Artillery, Col. William A. Howard.
2d U. S. Colored Artillery, Battery B, Capt. Francis C. Choate.

NEWPORT NEWS.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD A. WILD.

1st U. S. Colored Cavalry (three companies—dismounted).

FORT MONROE.

Col. JOSEPH ROBERTS.

3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery (battalion), Col. Joseph Roberts.
U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, 2d Battalion (five companies), Lieut. William Shields.

FORT MAGRUDER.

Col. JOSEPH J. MORRISON.

4th Massachusetts Cavalry, Company G, Lieut. Orson A. Baxter.
20th New York Cavalry, Company H, Lieut. John D. Lee.
1st New York Mounted Rifles (detachment), Capt. Minott A. Pruyn.
16th New York Heavy Artillery (detachment), Col. Joseph J. Morrison.

EASTERN SHORE.

Capt. ROBERT E. DUVALL.

Purnell Legion (Maryland) Cavalry, Company A, Captain Robert E. Duvall.
11th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Company L, Lieut. James D. Mahon.
1st Virginia, Loyal, Company A, Lieut. Oliver G. Thomas.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery (detachment).

DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Brig. Gen. INNIS N. PALMER.

SUB-DISTRICT OF THE ALBEMARLE.

Col. DAVID W. WARDROP.

16th Connecticut (two companies), Capt. Joseph H. Barnum.
85th New York (one company), Lieut. Col. Will W. Clarke.
101st Pennsylvania (one company), Lieut. David M. Ramsey.
103d Pennsylvania (two companies), Capt. Thomas A. Cochran.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Company D, Capt. James Moran.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Company K,* Capt. Emelius De Meulen.

SUB-DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT.

Col. THOMAS J. C. AMORY.

17th Massachusetts (three companies), Capt. Henry Splaine.
1st North Carolina (eight companies), Col. Joseph M. McChesney.
2d North Carolina (five companies), Lieut. Col. Walter S. Poor.
158th New York, Col. James Jourdan.
23d New York Cavalry (two companies), Capt. Emory Cummings.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Company B, Capt. Nehemiah P. Fuller.
3d New York Light Artillery, Battery C (section), Lieut. Enoch Jones.

* Detachment 24th Battery New York Light Artillery attached.

SUB-DISTRICT OF NEW BERNE.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD HARLAND.

15th Connecticut, Col. Charles L. Upham.
1st North Carolina (two companies), Capt. Richard J. Allen.
99th New York (four companies), Capt. John C. Lee.
132d New York, Lieut. Col. George H. Hitchcock.
9th Vermont, Col. Edward H. Ripley.
12th New York Cavalry, Col. James W. Savage.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Col. Jones Frankle.
1st North Carolina Colored Heavy Artillery (recruits), Maj. Thorndike C. Jameson.
3d New York Light Artillery, Lieut. Col. Henry M. Stone.
New York Light Artillery, 23d Battery, Capt. Alfred Ransom.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery (ten companies), Lieut. Col. George W. Tew.

WASHINGTON, *September 1, 1864—9 p. m.*
(Received 2d.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The Navy Department appears very anxious that the army should take Wilmington. At the instance of Captain Fox, General Gillmore has been directed to accompany Mr. Fox to see you on the subject. Whether any operations there be possible, and, if possible, whether expedient to be undertaken now, is left wholly to your judgment by the President and entire satisfaction will be felt with your determination. Fox and Gillmore started for City Point to-day. I have ordered Bowers' appointment as assistant adjutant-general, according to your request.

E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, *September 1, 1864—2 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

Assistant Secretary Fox, Navy Department, and General Gillmore go down to see you about a project on Wilmington. It originates in the Navy, not in the War Department. I think we have more irons now than we can keep from burning.

H. W. HALLECK.
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have nothing of consequence to report this morning, unusual quiet prevailing yesterday and last night. The enemy are apparently erecting a battery on the north side of the Appomattox to enfilade the position occupied by the 13-inch mortar. This will be met by a removal of the mortar to a more secure position. Orders will be issued this morning to Brigadier-General Gregg instructing him to concentrate all the available cavalry of his own and Kautz's command, after leaving the necessary pickets so as not to attract the enemy's attention, and with this command, supported by Ayres' division, Fifth Corps, who for this

purpose will be ordered to report to him, to proceed at early daylight to-morrow, from the left of Warren's line, to the several roads leading into Petersburg from the west and southwest and endeavor to capture or destroy some of the enemy's trains, supposed to be passing between Stony Creek and Petersburg. It is believed, however, that besides strong escorts to these trains the enemy is prepared for an operation of this kind by the disposition of his cavalry between Stony Creek and Petersburg and by holding in readiness an infantry reserve to meet the contingency.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, City Point:

I have to ask of the lieutenant-general commanding the favor of a seven-days' leave to visit my family in Philadelphia to attend to private affairs, the leave to commence on Sunday the 3d instant. This application is based on the belief, so far as my knowledge extends, that the operations of this army during that time will admit of my services being dispensed with.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 1, 1864—11.05 a. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Your dispatch of 11 a. m. received. From all information for the last twenty-four hours Early's force is now on its way to Richmond. If this proves true we may expect stirring times within a few days of his arrival, and I should not like you to be absent. A dispatch is just in, however, from General Sheridan, and as soon as it is deciphered I may be able to tell better what may be expected, and will inform you. If you do go I would prefer your starting immediately so as to be back as early as possible.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 1, 1864.*
(Received 1 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Sheridan is satisfied that no considerable force, if any, has been detached from his front. I am willing, therefore, that you should go for a week, but if it is convenient for you would prefer that you start this evening. Ingalls starts for Washington this evening in a special boat, and if you will go he will start at any hour that suits your convenience.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your telegram just received. I will be ready to leave this evening with Ingalls, and will endeavor to return before the end of the week. Whom shall I leave in command during my absence? Major-General Parke is the ranking officer.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *September 1, 1864.*
(Received 2.30 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

General Parke, being the senior officer, will be left in command.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—3.05 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

General Meade has left. Shall I notify General Hancock and General Warren of what General Ferrero reports and tell them to get their reserves under arms?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Please notify Generals Hancock and Warren ot General Ferrero's report and have them get their reserves under arms. Ferrero is at the Gurley house. Are you in telegraphic communication with General Gregg or the commanding officer of the cavalry?

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

We have no telegraphic communication with General Gregg, whose headquarters are on the plank road beyond the Williams house. General Gregg has just got here. He left his headquarters at 2 o'clock, when everything was quiet. I have sent a staff officer to inquire about it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864.

Major-General PARKE,
Comdg. Army of the Potomac, Headquarters Ninth Corps:

The following just received from the staff officer I sent out. I have notified Hancock and Warren:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864—5.10 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The picket-line of the Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry, on right of Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Second Brigade, Cavalry Division, Colonel Smith, on right of plank road, was attacked. Colonel Smith, temporarily commanding Cavalry Division, strengthened his lines and sent out reconnoitering force. It has returned, and Colonel Smith reports they found no enemy, and thinks the attack was only a raid on the picket-line. All quiet now.

C. D. EMORY,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

The following dispatch just received by General Gregg:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY,
September 1, 1864. (Received 4.40 p. m.)

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

Pickets of Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry attacked by enemy. Colonel Smith has sent out First Maine. All quiet on other parts line. The Fourth is near Gurley's house.

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

U. S. SHIP ONONDAGA,
James River, September 1, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: I have respectfully to inform you that since the morning of the 29th ultimo the boats of the U. S. steamer Sassacus have been employed dragging the river with grapnels below City Point to Harrison's Landing for the torpedoes supposed to have been placed in that vicinity, but have not succeeded in finding any. It is thought that their locality is not correctly defined, or that the parties reporting them have been misinformed. I have ordered a steamer to patrol the river nightly from City Point to Harrison's Landing to prevent the enemy from indulging in any such diabolical tricks hereafter.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MELANCTON SMITH,
Captain and Divisional Officer, Commanding in James River.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A rebel deserter from Eighth Alabama Regiment, Sanders' brigade, Mahone's division, who left his picket-line last night and arrived here this morning, reports no changes in the enemy's position. Mahone's division is posted in the trenches from their right to left in the following order: Wright, Mahone, Sanders, Harris, Finegan. The brigades of this division are very much reduced in numbers. This man states that it is well understood that there are but 500 men in Sanders' brigade, and that it is as large as the brigades of the division will average. They have lost severely in the recent battles. The informant also states that Anderson's and Law's brigades, of Field's division, are lying in a ravine between the lead-works and plank road. General Butler reported these two brigades gone from his front several days ago.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The men from Eighth Alabama report that the wagon train spoken of went from Stony Creek to Dinwiddie Court-House, thence to Petersburg on old stage (or plank) road. They do not know the strength of guard with train, or whether they run regular or not. They think that most of their supplies are brought by South Side and Danville railroads.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Of the three men sent toward Stony Creek Station one was captured and the two others have just returned. They report that they went about three miles below Reams' Station, but could not get through Jones' Hole Swamp, and consequently could not get to the railroad below Reams'. They state that that part of the country is thoroughly guarded; that all roads are picketed, and there are guards at every crossing along the streams. They saw negroes who had lately been at Stony Creek Station who told them that there was no work being done on the railroad in that vicinity, and that they were not building a branch railroad. They also stated that the cars do not

run as far up as Stony Creek. The negroes told them that the enemy were expecting us to make a raid through that country, and that they were exceedingly vigilant on that account.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
City Point, Va., September 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have received from R. G. Lee, commanding U. S. steamer Commodore Morris, seven refugees brought through from Richmond by our agent. They left Richmond last evening at 8 o'clock. Papers brought by them were given to the officers on the steamer. One of them, a bright and intelligent young man who was born in the North, says that on Sunday last he met an acquaintance of his who has long been a sutler in the army; that he knew of his having gone some little time ago to General Early's forces in the Valley with a supply of tobacco. He says that when they met on Sunday the sutler told him that all of General Early's troops were on their way back. He did not know what point they had reached on their return, but the fact of the whole force returning was spoken of as a certainty. It was understood that they were coming back to General Lee's army. This refugee says that on Sunday night some troops passed through Richmond going to the Petersburg railroad, but whence they came, and whether or not they were the advance of Early, he is unable to say. Yesterday morning a battalion of artillery numbering some sixteen guns passed through the city on its way, as was understood, to Chaffin's farm. No troops were with it except such as belonged to the artillery, and the reasons for the movement were not understood. General Kemper has been put in command of the reserve militia of Virginia, of which two regiments, the First and Nineteenth, are in the city doing duty at the various departments, offices, the Libby Prison, Castle Thunder, &c. The First Regiment is composed of Virginians, old men and boys, over and under the age subjecting them to conscription. The Nineteenth Regiment is composed of foreigners who have rendered themselves liable to do military duty by voting within the Confederacy, but are at the same time permitted to remain in Richmond as shoemakers, blacksmiths, &c. These, with the Tredegar Battalion, the Navy Battalion, the Arsenal Battalion, the Armory Battalion, and Hensley's Battalion of clerks in the War Department, contain every man able to walk or render any service whatever, and are thought to average about 300 men each. Flour is said to be still advancing, the most ordinary quality being now difficult to get at $325 a barrel, and the stalls for the sale of meat in the market have been reduced to two or three in number. Pork is not to be had in the market, and the fresh meat which has supplied the city for a short time past has been mainly bought by the Government and sold at fixed prices to the poorer classes. It was said to have been sent on by General Early, and was of very poor quality. No military movements, not hereinbefore stated, are known to have taken place.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point, Va.:

Enemy is lying here from their right to left in the following order: Wilcox, Mahone, Heth, Johnson, Hoke. Mahone's division lies from their right to left in the following order: Wright (resting on railroad), Mahone, Sanders, Harris, Finegan. Law's and Anderson's brigades, of Field's division, are lying in ravine between plank road and lead-works.

J. McENTEE,
Captain.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
September 1, 1864.

Captain McENTEE:

MY DEAR SIR: Deserters yesterday from Twenty-fifth Virginia Battalion report that all of Field's division has gone to Petersburg, except one brigade. Deserter from Second Maryland reports that there are but seventy men for duty in the battalion; that they lost eighty-eight men in the assault on the Weldon railroad. I sent to you a telegram epitomizing the information received here on the 29th instant through a telegram from Captain Leet regarding Early. My telegram was either late on the 29th or early on the 30th, and was nearly in these words (I write from memory): That reports from our scouts from Mine Run showed movements indicating the return of Early's troops; that General Edward Johnson had gone to Atlanta; that it was reported Beauregard had gone to Atlanta with a part of the troops from the Valley. I should like very much to know if such a telegram was not received.

Yours,

G. H. SHARPE.

HEADQUARTERS,
September 1, 1864. (Received 4.25 p. m.)

Colonel SHARPE:

Deserter from Twenty-sixth Mississippi, Davis' brigade, Heth's division; intelligent deserter from Nineteenth Georgia, Colquitt's brigade, by birth a Pennsylvanian, says Johnson and Hoke join on the left of Heth and carry line to the river. Says nothing is rumored of Early's return from the Valley; on the contrary, he says there is talk of sending him more men from Longstreet's old corps. No deserter or refugee that I have examined believes that Early will abandon the Valley. This young man says that it is not believed that we have much of a force before Petersburg; that his colonel remarked yesterday that he would take his regiment alone and carry our first line, if supported. He also says they are in daily expectation of our withdrawal, and the men all dread remaining here this winter; that great dissatisfaction prevails, and all agree that this is the last year of the war. He says his lieutenant knew of his intention to desert, and will come over himself the first opportunity.

FRED. L. MANNING,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Considerable dust this a. m. to south and west of city, but no movement of troops can be seen. The usual quiet all along the lines.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 85. } *City Point, Va., September 1, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

2. On surgeon's certificate of disability leave of absence for twenty-five days is hereby granted Brig. Gen. Rufus Ingalls, chief quartermaster, Armies operating against Richmond, to take effect on the 5th of September next.

3. Col. P. P. Pitkin, chief quartermaster of the City Point depot, is announced as acting chief quartermaster of the Armies operating against Richmond during the absence of General Ingalls.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 236. } *September 1, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

2. The Fifth and Ninth Corps will, with as little delay as practicable, be each reorganized into three divisions. In the Fifth Corps one of the divisions will be composed exclusively of the troops composing the old First Army Corps, except that the corps commander is authorized, if he thinks it best, to assign the Maryland troops in his command which belonged to the First Corps to the other divisions to be formed. In the Ninth Corps the First Division will be broken up and the regiments composing it transferred to the Second and Third Divisions. Before carrying into effect the arrangement above directed the commanders of the Fifth and Ninth Corps will submit to the major-general commanding their projects for the reorganization of their corps, giving the disposition proposed to be made of the general and staff officers whose positions may be changed and the names of such officers, if any, as may be rendered supernumerary.

* * * * * * *

10. During the temporary absence of the major-general commanding the command of the troops operating against Petersburg south of the Appomattox devolves upon Maj. Gen. J. G. Parke, the senior officer present.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 237. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *September 1, 1864.*

Paragraph 2 of Special Orders, No. 236, of this date, from these headquarters, is so far modified as to require that the Fifth Army Corps be reorganized into two instead of three divisions, as directed in that order.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 288. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, September 1, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

3. Capt. H. R. Clum, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, will proceed without delay to headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina and relieve Capt. L. B. Norton, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, in his duties as chief signal officer of that department.

4. Capt L. B. Norton, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, on being relieved from duty in the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, will proceed without delay to headquarters Department of the Susquehanna and assume charge of the signal detachment of that department.

5. First Lieut. Paul Brodie, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, will report in person without delay for duty to the chief signal officer Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

6. The following officers of the Signal Corps, U. S. Army, are hereby relieved from duty in the Department of Virginia and North Carolina and will proceed without delay to headquarters Middle Military Division and report in person to Major-General Sheridan, commanding, for assignment to duty: First Lieut. Wilson Bruyn, First Lieut. Charles F. Cross, Second Lieut. O. B. Ireland.

7. Second Lieut. Francis K. McCloskey, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, is hereby relieved from duty with the Army of the Potomac and will, at the expiration of his leave of absence, report in person for duty to the chief signal officer Department of the Susquehanna.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864—9 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There has been no change in my lines since last report. The large redoubt on the plank road has been partially drained and the work on the fort near the Strong house continued. Fatigue details have also been at work on the new fort on the left of the plank road and the one at the head of the railroad cut.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—3.25 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

General Ferrero reports heavy skirmishing with the cavalry in his rear. The major-general commanding thinks you had better get your reserves under arms.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Major-General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 1, 1864. (Received 4.15 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

I have ordered my available troops under arms. If there is any trouble in the direction indicated by your dispatch, I should be authorized to move General Miles from his position at the Avery house.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Information received from the cavalry picket-line shows that there is no longer any necessity of the reserves being under arms.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that during the operations to-morrow the troops be on the alert and the available force held ready to move. No details for working parties will be furnished to-morrow.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Generals Warren and Willcox.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864. (Sent 8 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I am instructed to inform you that General Gregg will concentrate a strong cavalry column during the night, and at daylight make a dash upon the enemy's line of communication between Petersburg and Stony

Creek Depot, moving from our lines near the Perkins house. General Warren will place a division of infantry under Gregg's orders for support. The commanding general desires that especial vigilance be enjoined upon the troops in the front.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Generals Birney and Willcox.)

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Army Corps:

Edgell's battery, of your corps, relieved the siege guns in Fort Hell. Both the batteries in that fort are rifles; one, at least, should be of Napoleons. I have none of that kind at my disposal. Either an additional battery of Napoleons should be put there or exchanged for Edgell's. It would be more efficient for use against the rifle-pits of the enemy's skirmishers. I am on a court-martial, and can't go up this morning.

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864.

In consequence of a proposed movement of the cavalry under General Gregg, it is directed that no details for fatigue be furnished tomorrow. The troops will be kept in readiness to move at short notice, and those on the line particularly will be on the alert.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

W. P. WILSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
*September 27, 1864.**

The following directions are given for the better police of the line of intrenchments held by this corps:

I. The troops along the line connecting with the inclosed works will not be permitted to occupy the ground near the parapet. In all cases a sufficient interval must be allowed for the passage of troops in columns of four, and for the prompt formation in line to resist an attack.

II. In the inclosed works commanders will exact constant attention to sanitary and police measures. No rubbish whatever will be allowed to be put in the ditches, and the parade ground and banquettes must be kept cleared, so as to permit the promptest movements of the garrison in case of an attack.

III. Sinks for the use of the men will be constructed along the entire line and the men forced to make use of them. Where the rifle-pits have been left in a filthy condition by the troops formerly on the line they will be properly policed.

* Erroneously arranged out of chronological order.

IV. Drains will be constructed to keep the pits and vicinity of the forts dry. When the rifle-pits cannot be drained otherwise, small pits for the reception of the surface water should be sunk, to be emptied and cleaned out whenever necessary.

V. The assistant inspector-general will detail an officer of his department to inspect the line daily to report upon the observance of this order and the orders heretofore published respecting the police and sanitary measures of camp. The report of this officer will be sent to these headquarters daily at 8 a. m.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIG., SECOND CORPS,
No. 141. } *September 1, 1864.*

Battery K, Fourth U. S. Artillery, Lieut. J. W. Roder commanding, is relieved from duty with the First Division of the corps. Lieutenant Roder will report without delay with his battery at these headquarters. The Third New Jersey Battery, C and I, Fifth United States, and the Twelfth New York Battery will unhitch and unharness.

By command of Maj. John G. Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864.

[General MOTT:]

The line for the rifle-pit to connect the redoubt on the plank road with the one at the Strong house is laid out. The general desires as much work done on it as practicable to-day by your pioneers. Colonel Morgan has seen General Pierce on the subject, and his pioneers and a few from Colonel McAllister's brigade are already at work, putting up the revetment and clearing away the underbrush, so that a large detail from First and Second Divisions can work to-night. No further directions are necessary to them. The general will require the garrison at the large redoubt to work on that part of the rifle-pit adjacent to the fort to-night—half of the garrison to work till 12 m., the remaining half till daylight; the first relief to commence work at dark. He wishes you to provide them with tools in the proportion of one pick to two shovels; also to send a staff officer to report to me at 4 p. m., to whom the work to be done will be indicated. Those of your men from the brigades of General Pierce and Colonel McAllister at work to-day will not be required to work to-night. The night work will be done by the details from First and Second Divisions and from the garrison at the redoubt.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864—4 p. m.

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: Major-General Hancock directs me to say that it is reported that heavy skirmishing is going on with the enemy's cavalry in rear of General Ferrero; he therefore directs that you hold your command in readiness for any contingency. The working party now in the fort near the Strong house will form the garrison of the fort in case of any difficulty in that vicinity, and will hold the fort under charge of such officer as you may select, meanwhile they will continue to work, as all they do adds to the defensive power of the position.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

I have the honor to report that about 10 a. m. yesterday the enemy advanced a party about 150 strong to the vicinity of the Davis house, drove in the outlying picket, near the signal station, capturing 8 men, wounding 3, and killing 1, and causing the pickets to fall back a short distance. The enemy then retired. We hold the Davis house, but our signal station is much annoyed by the enemy's sharpshooters. There are 2,400 men at work daily on the defenses at this point, and 1,200 daily on picket, which, together with the details for camp guards and other necessary duties, makes the entire command on duty every other day.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—12.25 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general decides that the regiments of the old First Division, the Maryland Brigade excepted, must be organized into one division. He authorizes you, however, if you wish to do so, to submit a project for the reorganization of the Fifth Corps into one division.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864—1 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

If it is imperative to have the First Corps made into one division I think it will be best to make one division of the Fifth Corps, too, which will make one of nearly the same size. I think the best way to do this is to select the officers who are to command the division and let them

organize the brigades, subject to approval. If the choice of commanders can be left to me I will make it; if not, I wish the major-general commanding to make the selection himself.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

According to the returns of the regiments of the old First Corps, exclusive of the regiments of the Maryland Brigade, the aggregate present is 5,785. The field return for August 21 is 11,642 aggregate. It will be seen that the one division of the old First Corps will comprise nearly one-half of my command.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Paragraph 2 of Special Orders No. 236, of this date, from these headquarters, is so far modified as to authorize you to reorganize the Fifth Corps into two divisions instead of three, one division to be composed of the old First Corps and the other of the Fifth Corps; and you can carry this arrangement into effect without further reference of the subject to these headquarters. You will, however, report the names of such staff officers, if any, as may be rendered supernumerary by the change.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I wish in the consolidation of this corps to two divisions to have General Griffin command one and General Ayres the other.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Meade has left the army to be absent a few days. He expected, however, that, as the senior officers, Generals Griffin and Crawford would be assigned to the command of your two divisions.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I shall not do anything toward the reorganization of this corps until the return of Major-General Meade.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Two deserters from the Seventh Georgia Cavalry (Hampton's) have just been brought in. They came in by the Vaughan road. They state there is but a small force of cavalry there watching our lines. No infantry. They say Hill's corps is in the trenches at Petersburg. They will be forwarded at once.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

I inclose you a copy of instructions* to Brigadier-General Gregg. The commanding general directs that General Ayres' division be prepared to support General Gregg at daylight to-morrow, and that the commander of the division report to-day to General Gregg for instructions. As it would interfere with his duties as a member of the Court of Inquiry, General Ayres need not accompany the division.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864—8.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have learned what General Gregg has directed my infantry to do in his support in the morning. It would be much simpler for us here to send General Crawford's division. It is all in reserve, while General Ayres' is all in the lines, except about 500 out on picket. General Crawford has as many as General Ayres. I think General Ayres ought to go if his division goes, and he ranks General Gregg, as does General Crawford.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

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* See Humphreys to Gregg, p. 644.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding consents to the substitution of General Crawford's division for that of General Ayres. The commander of the infantry will not have charge of the operation, which is necessarily intrusted to General Gregg, but will support the cavalry. The commanding general requests that you will see that the directions for the movement of the infantry are conveyed to the new commander.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I send the following, just received:

HALIFAX ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 1, 1864—7.10 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

From 4.45 p. m. to 6.15 p. m. a cloud of dust was rising at a point north-northwest from station, and about half a mile back of W. P. Davis' house. It moved toward the enemy's front on Halifax road. Cannot tell whether it was troops or trains.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—11.45 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general requests that you will hold all your available troops ready at an early hour to-morrow morning for any contingency that may arise. This will not interfere with the orders already given in regard to Crawford's division.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
September 1, 1864—3.10 p. m.

General GREGG:

I hear firing somewhere between you and my corps. Do you know anything about it?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Will General Parke please have an orderly take above message?

G. K. W.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864—3.20 p. m.

General WARREN:

Your dispatch of 3.10 p. m. to General Gregg just received. I do not know where General Gregg's headquarters are. General Ferrero reported firing to the south of the Gurley house, and has his division under arms.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864—11 p. m.

General GREGG:

Can you tell me how much force appeared south of the Gurley house just before dark and whether the line was re-e[nforced]; and will you not give your officer in command of the picket near me instructions to send me word direct if anything occurs to-day? When the enemy's cavalry [attacked] I got no notification from your line.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 1, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

General Gregg has gone to army headquarters. Pickets of Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry were attacked. Colonel Smith, commanding Second Brigade, has sent out to ascertain what force attacked and to drive back. All quiet on other parts line. Colonel Stone is here.

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864—12 p. m.

Division commanders will hold all their available troops ready at an early hour to-morrow morning for any contingency that may arise. They will have their men under arms and ready for service wherever required by early dawn.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

General GRIFFIN:

General Gregg reports that a portion of his cavalry was driven in just before dark in front of the Gurley house.

By command of Major-General Warren:

[A. S. MARVIN, JR.]

[Memorandum.]

This will not interfere with the orders already given in regard to General Crawford's division.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 215. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *September 1, 1864.*

I. The Independent Wisconsin Battalion, on duty at these headquarters, is relieved, and will proceed to join General Bragg's brigade, in the Third Division.

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By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General AYRES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: I am instructed to inform you that General Crawford's division has been substituted for yours in the operations of to-morrow.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: You will have your division under arms to-morrow morning, and move the head of your column down the main road toward Reams' Station, so that it will be at the point where our line crosses the railroad at 3 a. m. Your division is to support a movement of General Gregg's cavalry, and the accompanying instructions* from Major-General Humphreys will show you to what extent.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 1, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Providence, R. I.:

Lieutenant-General Grant directs me to say to you that under existing circumstances he does not deem it best to return you to the command of your corps at present, but that he will not relieve you from it unless to assign you to some other command. He therefore desires you to remain at Providence or such other place as you may select until further orders from him.

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Humphreys to Warren, 9 p. m., p. 639.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report all quiet along my line during the past twenty-four hours. Small scouting parties were sent out from each division and report the enemy from three-quarters to one mile from our picket-line. The redoubt at the Chimneys is not yet completed. The infantry parapet on right of this work will be changed, and I purpose making a strong parapet on the line to be staked out by the engineers.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—2.10 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Major-General Meade will leave these headquarters at 3 p. m., to be absent from the army a week. In his absence the command of the army will devolve on you as senior officer, and he suggests that you make your headquarters at this place during his absence.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that you can carry into effect the order of to-day requiring the reorganization of your corps into three divisions without further reference of the subject to these headquarters. The commanding general desires, however, that General White be designated as the commander of the colored division.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864—3 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Ferrero has just reported that the cavalry in his rear are skirmishing with the enemy pretty heavily.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 160. } HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864.

I. In pursuance of paragraph 2, Special Orders, No. 236, headquarters Army of the Potomac, dated September 1, 1864, the First Division of this corps is hereby discontinued and the regiments comprising it

are transferred to the Second and Third Divisions, as follows: To the Second Division—Twenty-first Massachusetts Volunteers, battalion Third Maryland Volunteers, battalion Thirty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, Fifty-sixth Massachusetts Volunteers; to the Third Division—Twenty-ninth Massachusetts Volunteers, Fifty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers, Fifty-ninth Massachusetts Volunteers, One hundredth Pennsylvania Volunteers, One hundred and seventy-ninth New York Volunteers, Fourteenth New York Artillery (heavy).

II. The regiments transferred to the Second Division will be assigned to brigades by the commanding officer of the division.

III. The regiments transferred to the Third Division will constitute the Third Brigade of that division.

IV. Brig. Gen. John F. Hartranft will assume command of his original brigade and temporarily the command of the Third Division. Maj. W. H. D. Cochrane, assistant quartermaster, and Capt. C. J. Mills, assistant adjutant-general, will report for duty at these headquarters.

V. Staff officers rendered supernumerary by the operation of this order will report to the chiefs of their respective departments at these headquarters for orders.

VI. Acting staff officers and enlisted men on duty at the different headquarters of the division and brigades thus broken up will report to the commanding officers of their respective regiments.

By command of Brigadier-General Willcox:

JOHN C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

The following just received from General Ferrero:

I have to report that Captain Andrews, in command of cavalry pickets in our front (Gurley house), states that the enemy attacked his line again at sundown and drove him back one-quarter of a mile, where he now is, and that it was infantry that made the attack. I have established a strong picket of infantry in rear of the cavalry and ordered my division in line of battle before sunrise in the morning.

The enemy also advanced his vedettes to this edge of the corn-field in front of the Third Division this evening.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—11.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general directs that you be prepared at daylight to withdraw one division from your front to support General Ferrero if he should require it, and also have the reserve artillery ready to send him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division:

GENERAL: Major-General Parke having assumed, in the absence of Major-General Meade, the command of the Army of the Potomac, the undersigned respectfully begs to inform you that he has, in compliance with directions of Maj. Gen. John G. Parke, temporarily assumed command of the Ninth Army Corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

(Same to Brig. Gen. R. B. Potter, commanding Second Division, and Brig. Gen. John F. Hartranft, commanding First Division.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you concentrate your cavalry during the night (your own division and that of Kautz), leaving such pickets as may be necessary to watch the most important and most exposed points, and at daylight make a sudden and rapid dash upon the enemy's line of communication between Petersburg and Stony Creek Depot for the purpose of capturing wagon trains and straggling escorts, returning with such captures as you make to your present position before the enemy can collect a largely superior force against you. This line of communication is the Boydton plank road or the road west of it. You should leave our lines somewhere near the Perkins house. General Warren is directed to have Ayres' division of infantry ready to support you at daylight, the commander of which will be instructed to report to you during to-day, and to whom you will give such orders as may be necessary for the efficient execution of the operations you are charged with.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 1, 1864.

General GREGG:

The picket-line of the Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry is re-established. All quiet in front.

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—7 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

General Warren reports at 6 p. m. that two deserters from the Seventh Georgia (Hampton's) have just been brought in. They came in by the Vaughan road. They state that there is but a small

force of cavalry there watching our lines—no infantry. As soon as these deserters reach these headquarters they will be examined and I will send you anything further that may be elicited. General Patrick informs me that there are between 100 and 200 bounty jumpers, as he styles them, who have deserted from us, and are believed to be in the woods watching an opportunity to get through the cavalry picket. This would be a good reason for retaining the picket-line.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 1, 1864—7 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have directed the regiments of my division and General Kautz's regiments to move from my headquarters at 2 a. m. to-morrow. By moving at this hour my command will be at the Perkins house at daylight. The only roads upon which I can move out to strike the plank road west of the railroad are the Wyatt road (leading west from a point about two miles south of General Warren's position) and the Dinwiddie stage road. On this latter I will certainly strike the enemy's cavalry in force at Gravelly Hill, two miles from Reams' Station. The Wyatt road after leaving the railroad runs in a northwesterly direction and strikes the Vaughan road two miles and a half out. From the point at which the Vaughan road is struck there is no road leading across to the plank road. The Vaughan road is very certainly defended for the protection of the plank road. The success of the operation required of the cavalry requires that a sudden dash be made. If you have any additional information will you please advise me at what point a force of cavalry might be moved rapidly with a prospect of reaching the road upon which the enemy may possibly be moving wagon trains?

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

I sent you about 7 o'clock some information respecting the condition of the Vaughan road nearer Petersburg than where you propose to strike it, showing that it is there but slightly guarded. I am not acquainted with the roads leading to it or to the Boydton plank. As soon as these deserters arrive I will question them and send you the result. The commanding general directs that the pickets be left on the line they now hold. General Crawford's division has been substituted for General Ayres' to support you. General Warren is directed to see that your instructions to the commander of the latter are turned over to the commander of Crawford's division, and is informed that the operation is intrusted to you and that the infantry commander will support you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The following just received from the commanding officer of the cavalry regiment on picket in front of the Gurley house:

A little before dark this evening the enemy began moving infantry and drove the left of my line some distance back. Everything indicates an attack to-morrow morning.

J. ANDREWS,
Captain, Commanding Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

I think this force must be dismounted cavalry.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—11.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:
(Through headquarters Second Corps.)

Your telegraph received. The commanding general sees no reason for changing the order for the movement. All available troops will be held ready at an early hour in the morning to meet any contingency.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND CAVALRY DIV., ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864.

Col. J. P. TAYLOR,
First Pennsylvania Cavalry:

MY DEAR SIR: The order discharging from the U. S. service the First Pennsylvania Cavalry has been received at these headquarters. As you will accompany your regiment to Pennsylvania, there to be discharged with it, I can not permit your departure without expressing to you how much I feel the separation of yourself and command from the Second Division. For nearly two years the First Pennsylvania Cavalry has been under my command, and now, at the end of its term of service, I can proudly say its record is without blemish. The excellence of your regiment resulted from the proper appreciation of discipline by its officers. In the many engagements of this division, in which your regiment has participated, many officers and enlisted men have fallen. They met death facing the foe. Let them be proudly remembered by those who survive. To you, colonel, my thanks are due for the efficient manner in which you have always performed your duty, whether as a regimental or brigade commander. You can return to your home well satisfied that you failed not in your duty, bearing with you the sincere friendship of myself and all your companions in arms.

With the very best wishes for your health, happiness, and success in the future,

I am, very truly, yours,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[SEPTEMBER 1,] 1864—1.35 a. m.

Major-General ORD:

As the two companies which you sent to the Berkeley Place are insufficent to do any work, the general commanding desires that you send in addition a small colored regiment, which can be relieved after the defenses are completed.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 240. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C., *In the Field, Va., September 1, 1864.*

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V. Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney, commanding Tenth Corps, will send to Broadway Landing, as soon as possible, a regiment of colored troops, there to take water transportation for Berkeley house, Harrison's Landing. Quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

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IX. The Seventy-ninth New York Volunteers will proceed and report without delay to the commanding officer Ninth Army Corps, Army of the Potomac.

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XIII. Brig. Gen. O. S. Ferry, U. S. Volunteers, will report in person without delay to Lieut. Gen. U. S. Grant, commanding Armies of the United States.

By command of Major-General Ord:

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *September 1, 1864—6.30 a. m.*

Major TRUMBULL,
First Connecticut Artillery, Headquarters Tenth Corps:

I have ordered Captain Brooker to relieve you. He will arrive probably by noon. The ambulance which brings his baggage will bring back yours, and yourself, too, if you prefer it to horseback. I shall come down with Captain Brooker.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS SIEGE ARTILLERY,
Broadway Landing, Va., September 1, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Va. and N. C.:

MAJOR: I have the honor to inclose a copy of paragraph IV, Special Orders, No. 123, headquarters Eighteenth Army Corps. I would respectfully protest against this order: first, because it annuls General Orders, No.—, headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, dated June 19, 1864 (copy herewith inclosed), and thus deprives me of the command assigned to me by the commanding general of the department; and, second, because it destroys the organization of the siege artillery of the department, and thus impairs its efficiency. When the lines of Bermuda Hundred were first constructed its fixed artillery

armament was decided upon by the proper engineer and artillery officers and approved by the commanding general. These artillery troops were organized into a command independent of both corps then occupying the lines, and ordered to report direct to department headquarters. All morning reports, &c., desired by the different corps commanders for their information were forwarded to them, and all firing was conducted in strict accordance with their orders; but the independent organization of the command was established, and it has been strictly preserved. I have supplied these troops with ammunition, rations, clothing, and, until the recent illness of my assistant surgeon, with medical attendance. They have consequently never suffered by the numerous changes of troops in their vicinity. An assistant inspector-general for my command has been appointed by the commanding general after the inconvenience of depending upon the corps commanders, for the services of this officer had been practically demonstrated; and lately a medical officer has been ordered to the command for the same reason. In fine, the same organization established after much study for the garrisons of the field-works around Washington, has been adopted here. The troops, being fixed in position, while those about them are constantly changing, have been organized into a separate command (Siege Artillery, Department of Virginia and North Carolina), reporting direct to the commanding general, and only receiving orders necessary to their proper co-operation from the corps commanders about them. Their system, established by the commanding general on May 17, and reaffirmed by him at the reorganization on June 19, and kept constantly in force since that date, is entirely done away with by the inclosed order from headquarters of Eighteenth Corps. The new system destroys a compact, well-organized command, consisting of nine companies, under the charge of Major Cook; deprives both him and myself of all control; breaks up my command into thirteen independent batteries, depending for everything upon the chief of artillery of a corps. Suppose a transfer of corps to occur, these batteries would be left without a commanding officer, without rations, without medical attendance, at the very time when the necessary confusion would most invite an attack. Again, suppose the chief of artillery of the Eighteenth Corps should think some change of armament advisable. Under this order, that which has been fixed by the commanding general of the department with much care might be changed without his knowledge or consent. To me the disadvantages of the change appear so evident that I cannot but protest against the order, and request that my command may be left as heretofore organized.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

GENERAL ORDERS.] HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C.,
In the Field, June 19, 1864.

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The First Connecticut Heavy Artillery and Battery M, Third Pennsylvania Artillery, will be reported to these headquarters by Col. H. L. Abbot, First Connecticut Heavy Artillery.

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By command of Major-General Butler:

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 123. } HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Va., September 1, 1864.*

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IV. Commanding officers of all heavy, siege, and permanent batteries now in position on the front occupied by the Eighteenth Corps will report in person at once to Col. A. Piper, chief of artillery, Eighteenth Army Corps, who is placed in command of all artillery from Deep Bottom to Fort Converse. They will also send in daily to the headquarters of the artillery morning reports of the strength of their batteries and such other information as may be useful to the chief of artillery.

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By command of Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord:

THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

Let a proper order be issued putting the organization and command of the artillery as was agreed upon and settled as the most for the benefit of the service by the within order.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General of Volunteers.

So much of Special Orders, No. 123, paragraph IV, issued from headquarters Eighteenth Army Corps, as relates to the command of Col. H. L. Abbot, namely, the siege artillery, is hereby revoked, and Colonel Abbot will, as heretofore, report only to these headquarters.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864—9 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

All is quiet on my line. At one point the enemy keep up a sharpshooters' fire. So far as I can make out from deserters, Heth has relieved two of his brigades on my left and sent them to his right in reserve, and line remains as before. The enemy are busy in constructing boom-proofs and strengthening their lines. I have 700 men on fatigue, and sent by General Ord's order a squadron cavalry from my right that were on picket to Bermuda Hundred for special duty. I am at work along my line policing and strengthening it. I found its police in most filthy condition, the covered ways having been used as sinks.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General HUNT,
Chief of Artillery:

The firing on our lines is in reply to fire opened by the enemy.

Respectfully,

F. McGILVERY,
Colonel and Chief of Artillery.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1864. (Received 3.27 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Tenth Army Corps:

Major-General Ord directs that you send a regiment of colored troops to Berkeley house, Harrison's Landing, for temporary duty. They will go to Bermuda Landing and take water transportation there. No land transportation will be required with them.

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 1, 1864—4.15 p. m. (Received 4.35 p. m.)

Major DAVIS:

As my troops are in line it may be night before a colored regiment can be taken out. As this will thin my line, could not a regiment from the reserve at Spring Hill be sent to me during its absence? I sent you a very intelligent deserter this morning. He reports Heth, Hoke, and Bushrod Johnson in my front. I have sent in prisoners from all.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

Send to General Ord.

HATCHER'S, *September 1, 1864.*

Major-General BIRNEY:

I have no reserve at Spring Hill. The garrison there is reduced to two companies.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 114. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 1, 1864.

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2. Col. J. B. Howell, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, is assigned to the temporary command of the Third Division during the sickness of Brigadier-General Birney, and will assume command at once.

3. Second Lieut. Joel W. Hyde, Twenty-ninth Connecticut Volunteers, is hereby appointed acting assistant inspector-general for the First Brigade, Third Division, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly. He will report in person to Lieut. Col. R. H. Jackson, assistant inspector-general, at these headquarters for instruction.

4. The commanding officer of the Third Division will send the smallest of the colored regiments lately belonging to the Eighteenth Corps to Bermuda Hundred as soon as possible, there to embark for Berkeley house, Harrison's Landing.

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By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 1, 1864.

Brigade commanders will enjoin on their officers and men in the trenches the most extreme vigilance during the night and to-morrow. At 4 o'clock to-morrow morning the reserves, including every man capable of bearing arms, will be placed under arms and kept in readiness to move until half an hour after sunrise, and during the whole day to-morrow no man will be suffered to leave his regiment, except for absolutely necessary purposes.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

ADRIAN TERRY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 1, 1864.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the following summary of events pertaining to my command during the past twenty-four hours: The position, &c., of the reserves remained unchanged. The draining and policing of the trenches in my front are in progress, the trenches being now in a far better condition than when I first occupied them. No movements of note, offensive or defensive, have been made by my command.

The officer of the trenches reports last night:

The enemy kept up a rapid fire of musketry and quite annoying fire from sharpshooters, who enfiladed the line. They are quite busy erecting, completing, and repairing works on their line, one of which seems to be built so as to enfilade the railroad and a great part of the brigade line; also one of his works in process of construction opposite the center of this brigade line seems so situated as to enfilade the right of our line. The enemy is also throwing up a second and in some places a third line of works opposite our center.

The officer of the trenches this morning reports:

All well. The enemy kept up a fire on the left and center of our line almost continually. No working was done by them that could be seen during the night. But little firing has been done from our brigade. I have had some work done on the trenches.

No casualties have occurred since yesterday's report.

I have the honor to be, captain, your obedient servant,

J. B. HOWELL,
Colonel Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Vols., Comdg. First Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 1, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that for the past twenty-four hours it has been unusually quiet on my front. The troops of my command have been engaged in raising and strengthening the parapet and traverses at several points on the line. In rear of Third Brigade a covered way has been commenced leading from the reserves to the

trenches. The line was found in a very filthy condition, but sinks are being dug, and, though policing is in progress, it will take several days to place the trenches in proper condition.

I am, respectfully, yours,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 1, 1864.

Colonel CURTIS:

COLONEL: On account of certain movements that will take place at daylight to-morrow morning unusual vigilance will be observed on the part of the troops in the front line, and any movement on the part of the enemy promptly reported. The troops of the command will be held in readiness for any movement that may occur.

By order of Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster:

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Colonel Barton and Colonel Osborn.)

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 1, 1864.

Col. JOHN H. HOLMAN,
Comdg. Second Brig., Third Div., Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: You will proceed at once with your regiment to Broadway Landing. You will report to the commanding officer of the post.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[E. W. MOREY,]
First Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY,
September 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. V. KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: General Gregg directs me to say that you will please leave two of your regiments on picket, and come yourself with the other two regiments.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 1, 1864—9 p. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The orders for the movement have not been countermanded, but General Gregg will not withdraw his picket-line.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS RECRUITING RENDEZVOUS,
Newport News, Va., September 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. G. F. SHEPLEY,
Commanding District of Eastern Virginia:

SIR: I have the honor to report that some Government employés (colored) came up here from Fort Monroe and Hampton hospitals, having been allowed a short leave of absence for the purpose of getting their families, if possible. I told them I had no boats, but would help them with men. They reappeared the next day with sail-boats. I sent with them a captain and fifteen men (dismounted cavalry). The families were in and about Smithfield. I gave them strict instructions to abstain from plundering; to injure no one, if possible; to get the women and children merely, and come away as promptly as possible. They were to land in the night. They followed these directions closely, but became delayed by the numbers of women and children anxious to follow, whom they packed in extra boats picked up there, and towed along. They also had to contend against a head tide and wind calm, so that their progress down Smithfield Creek in the early morn was exceedingly slow. The inhabitants evidently gathered in from some concerted plan of alarm or signals. For three miles below the party were intercepted by a force of irregular appearance, numbering about 100, having horses and dogs with them, armed variously with shotguns, rifles, &c., and posted behind old breast-works with some hurried additions. They attacked the leading boats, killed a man and woman, and wounded another woman therein. The contrabands then rowed over to the opposite bank and scattered over the marshes. How many more have been slaughtered we know not. Two men have since escaped to us singly. When the rear boats, containing the soldiers, came up, the captain landed, with the design of attacking the rebels, but then the firing revealed their full numbers. He found they outnumbered him more than six to one, and that the revolvers of our cavalry, in open boats or on the open beach, would stand no chance against their rifles behind breast-works. He embarked again, and they made their way past the danger by wading his men behind the boats, having the baggage and bedding piled up like a barricade. They then had a race with three boats, which put out from side creeks to cut them off. But for the coolness and ingenuity of Captain Whiteman, none would have escaped. None of the soldiers are known to have been severely wounded, but three are missing in the marshes and woods. We have since learned that there are signal stations in that neighborhood, which ought to be broken up. I would also earnestly recommend the burning of a dozen or twenty houses, in accordance with your General Order, No. 23.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWD. A. WILD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *September 1, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: The negroes will not go voluntarily, so I am obliged to force them. I have sent seventy-one and will send this afternoon about

150. I expect to get a large lot to-morrow. I have done all that could be done, but I am not as fortunate as you expected me to be. I shall keep working.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

FRED. MARTIN,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., September 1, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Va. and N. C.:

MAJOR: The matter of collecting the colored men for laborers has been one of some difficulty, but I hope to send up a respectable force. The matter has been fairly explained to the contrabands, and they have been treated with the utmost consideration, but they will not go willingly. Now, I take it that the state of the country needs their services, and that if they will not go willingly they must be forced to go, and I propose to take all I can find who are in no permanent employment and send them up. I am aware that this may be considered a harsh measure, but at such a time we must not stop at trifles. As long as the general understands my motives I do not care particularly for the complaints of outsiders. I have promised all the contrabands I have seized that their pay shall commence from the day of taking them from here. I hope you will direct the quartermaster so to place them on the rolls. Captain Martin, upon his arrival, will explain more fully the difficulties in the way here.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

WASHINGTON, *September 2, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Just returned. Does the fall of Atlanta make any change in your views, especially as to the time, October 1?

G. V. FOX.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 2, 1864—8.20 a. m. (Received 8.40 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States, City Point:

The following telegrams* received shows the result of the operations of the cavalry column this morning. Shall General Gregg make another dash in heavier column at some point two or three miles lower down? The brigade that made the dash out was 2,600 or 2,800 strong.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

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*See Gregg to Humphreys, 6.15 and 7.30 a. m., pp. 669, 670.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 2, 1864.*
(Received 9.15 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

General Gregg need not make any further effort to reach the enemy's wagon train in the direction he did this morning. Keep Warren and Gregg ready, however, to move out and attack the enemy if he should feel his way up near our left.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 2, 1864.*

Major-General PARKE:

What was the result of the cavalry movement this morning as to losses on each side?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 2, 1864—3.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

General Gregg has not yet reported the losses. He has been telegraphed for them. It is reported by him and by General Warren that no movements of the enemy have been observed, as the following dispatches show.*

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 2, 1864—7.15 p. m. (Received 7.25 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

The parties sent out by General Gregg found no evidence of any movement of the enemy going on. The signal officer on the Weldon railroad saw no movements during the day other than those reported. It is probable the brigade of infantry seen going out the Squirrel Level road re-enforced the infantry and cavalry posted at the intersection of the Boydton plank road and the road the cavalry moved out on. Gregg's cavalry got within 300 or 400 yards of the plank road. It was not intended to strike it so near Petersburg. A branch road from the one they were on enters the plank road a mile farther from the town. No other enters it this side of Rowanty Creek.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

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*See Warren to Humphreys, 2.30 p. m., and Gregg to Humphreys, 2.30 p. m., pp. 665, 670.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 2, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the following as the result of examination of prisoners and deserters who came in this morning and last night. The two deserters from Seventh Georgia Cavalry report that Young's brigade of cavalry is lying about five miles west of Weldon railroad, on the Dinwiddie road. The Seventh Georgia, now attached to Young's brigade, came out in June last, and when it arrived here numbered 1,000 men. It now numbers 400, twenty-five of whom are mounted. The Twentieth Georgia Battalion has been attached to Jeff. Davis Legion, and Fourth Alabama Battalion to Phillips' Legion. The brigade, they think, numbers about 1,500 men, about two-thirds mounted. Deserters from Mahone's and Sanders' brigades report no changes in that division. W. H. Dugan, deserter from Twenty-first South Carolina, just came from Weldon, where he had been on furlough. He reports that Hagood's brigade came here from Charleston in May last, 3,700 strong, and that he was told by the colonel of the Twenty-seventh South Carolina, whom he met a few days ago at Weldon, that the brigade, counting sick and wounded, would not number 800 men. A deserter from Lucas' battalion heavy artillery, stationed at Charleston, makes the following statement regarding troops about Charleston, &c.: Lucas' battalion, 200 men, stationed on James Island; five companies heavy artillery, 500 men, and First Regiment South Carolina Infantry, 700 men, stationed on Sullivan's Island; Blake's light battery, 100 men; Thirty-second Georgia Regiment, 700 men, and Second South Carolina Heavy Artillery, 800 men, stationed at Mount Pleasant. This, he states, is a large estimate of troops in that vicinity. He states that some time ago, when a demonstration was made on Secessionville, that all the troops were taken from Sullivan's Island (save three companies), and that the latter place could have been taken with one regiment. He also states that Fort Sumter can never be taken by firing upon it; that the only way to take it is to starve out the garrison, and that can only be done by keeping up a steady fire during the night. The garrison have very little supplies at a time. Provisions are taken to them in boats every night, and by preventing that the fort would soon be compelled to surrender. All of the above-mentioned men state that cars run on Weldon railroad as far as Stony Creek, and that the enemy are carting supplies from that point to Petersburg via Dinwiddie Court-House.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 2, 1864.

[Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:]

GENERAL: I have seen the man from the Twenty-first South Carolina the second time, and from what he says I think there is no inconsistency in his statement. He was a sergeant in his company, and had been offered a position as lieutenant, but declined it. He was intimately

acquainted with Colonel Gaillard, and stood by his side when a piece of shell cut off his arm; assisted in binding his wound, &c. On meeting him at Weldon he casually observed that "the brigade must be pretty well reduced" by this time, and the Colonel replied, "Yes; if the sick and slightly wounded were with the brigade I suppose it would number 800 men." He also states that many of the men of the brigade have deserted and gone home. He knew of nine men from his company deserting at one time. The brigade has been in several battles in this vicinity, and always lost heavily. They were considered the best South Carolina brigade in the field.

Respectfully,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 2, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from Lane's brigade, Wilcox's division, who just arrived, report the following: They left their picket-line about noon to-day, and came into our lines in front of the lead-works. Wilcox's division is stationed in the trenches, from their right to left, in the following order: Anderson's, Lane's (in front of lead-works), McGowan's, Scales'. They were both at Petersburg yesterday, and returned late last evening, and they saw no troops in reserve. They have heard of no troops arriving in that vicinity lately, and they report no recent changes within the enemy's lines. They see wagon trains passing both ways on the plank road west of the Weldon railroad every day, and state that they have no guard with them.

Very respectfully,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

They also report that Lane's brigade moved down the railroad a short distance this morning on account of some movement observed or suspected within our lines, but they returned again to their old position.

Respectfully.

J. McENTEE,
Captain.

HEADQUARTERS,
September 2, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE:

Deserter from Forty-sixth North Carolina, Cooke's brigade, Heth's division, came into our lines yesterday morning: Says the cooks that brought rations from the rear reported that Early had been ordered here from the Valley, and that the rumor was regarded as a certainty by all the soldiers. Reports no changes, but tells the old story of want in the Confederacy, and the rebellion played out.

FRED. L. MANNING,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS,
September 2, 1864—7.20 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE:

Two deserters from First Confederate Battalion, Davis' brigade, Heth's division, bring nothing new. One from Fifty-first North Carolina, Clingman's brigade, Hoke's division. He had heard that Early was ordered to Petersburg, but finally said that all he heard was originated from our papers. May there not be something in that?

FRED. L. MANNING,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 2, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

The enemy continues active on intrenchments in vicinity and left of lead-works. All quiet and camps unchanged.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

SEPTEMBER 2, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Over 100 wagons have been observed moving over road; about three-fourths of them passed to our left. Little labor has been performed by enemy at and to left of exploded fort.

I. S. LYON,
Signal Officer.

SEPTEMBER 2, 1864.

[Maj. B. F. FISHER:]

SEPTEMBER 2, 1864.

Major-General PICKETT:

[When will] communication by telegraph with your headquarters be completed? What of the enemy's canal since last report?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

F. FULLER,
Lieutenant and Acting Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
September 2, 1864.

Major FISHER:

HEADQUARTERS PICKETT'S DIVISION,
September 2, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD:

As soon as sufficient wire can be had. Nothing new about canal since last report.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General.

T. R. CLARK,
Captain and Signal Officer.

[Maj. B. F. FISHER:]

SEPTEMBER 2, 1864—5.25 p. m.

General BEAUREGARD:

This last message could not get on account of sun and smoke, but it said something about wire can be had and something about the canal.

G. E. PICKETT.

F. FULLER,
Lieutenant and Acting Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 2, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

The enemy are working by large detail on new line of works running from their main line in vicinity of lead-works southward. The part running from sheds on railroad to our right, and connecting with main line, has not been worked on before for eight days. No movements or change of camp visible.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

SEPTEMBER 2, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Several light trains seen on Richmond road this p. m. moving toward the right. Otherwise the usual quiet has prevailed all day.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 2, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following intercepted rebel messages received from the signal officer at Walthall house:

Sergeant R.,
At C.:

Have there been any movements of enemy since last p. m.? Watch them and report their movements.

B.,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Colonel B.:

Could not see any distance before 8 a. m. When fog cleared off, made the following observations: One company of cavalry and one battery of artillery drilling in open space to our left of Cobb's.

R.,
Sergeant at C.

Our officer at the Walthall house states that he observes no changes in the rebel line or camps, and no movements. The officer at the plank road station reports:

The enemy are active in improving works on our front; are building an extensive fort in front of woods near lead-works; have also commenced a new line of works

in rear of main lines north-northwest from this station At 8.30 a. m. 200 cavalry, followed by twelve wagons, came from woods in front of large fort near Weldon railroad; passed on the east side of fort and took the road running westerly. Camps unchanged.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 86. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES, *City Point, Va., September 2, 1864.*

I. Brig. Gen. O. S. Ferry, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty in the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, and will report in person to Maj. Gen. D. N. Couch, commanding Department of the Susquehanna. Capt. H. L. Johnson, assistant adjutant-general volunteers, has permission to accompany him.

* * * * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 238. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *September 2, 1864.*

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2. The location of the depot for the recuperation of weak and temporarily disabled cavalry horses, made by Maj. Elmer Otis, Fourth U. S. Cavalry, special inspector of cavalry for this army, is approved. The camp for dismounted cavalry will be at or near the depot established by Major Otis, and said camp is placed under the general superintendence of that officer.

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By command of Major-General Parke:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—6.15 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The following report is just received:

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864.

Captain WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that officers in charge of the pickets inform me that there has been a movement on the part of the enemy toward their right.

Respectfully,

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 2, 1864. (Received 6.25 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Two deserters have just come in, one from Mahone's old brigade and one from Wilcox's old brigade. They are not aware of any movement of their troops.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—9 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I am connecting Fort Crawford and the redoubt at the Strong house with a rifle-pit. It requires a great deal of work from my command, and I am not able to work any south of the fort at the Strong house. I think the Ninth Corps ought to throw their breast-work forward there to connect with the fort, as I am doing on the right of it. As it is now, the fort is some 200 yards in advance of the rifle-pit.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—9 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

Since my last report fatigue details from this command have been working at the fort near the Strong house, the one on plank road, and the other at the head of the railroad cut. About 1,300 men were at work last night on the rifle-pit connecting the fort at the Strong house with Fort Crawford. The one at Strong house is garrisoned and far enough advanced nearly for guns.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 2, 1864. (Sent 10.50 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The rifle-pits south of the Strong house redoubt will be attended to by the Ninth Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 2, 1864. (Received 10.50 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I would like a copy of the dispatch you sent me on the night of the 24th telling me that a force of the enemy had moved out from Peters-

burg, and that General Warren thought it might be a working party, &c. Colonel Walker had this and several dispatches on his person when captured.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 2, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I send you the dispatch* you probably referred to. I do not find any other of similar character.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 2, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

It is considered that the four guns in Battery No. 20 might be removed without materially weakening the line there, and they are therefore available for transfer to the line now held by Birney. The armament for Battery No. 6, near Fort McGilvery, is marked for two 30-pounder Parrotts, but the difficulty of supplying them with ammunition makes it desirable to substitute two field guns for the armament of the redoubts and batteries, as prescribed in the list.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864.

Major DUANE:

Is there any name for the fort at the Strong house? One would be very convenient.

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864.

General MILES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires me to say that the order for immediate movement has been countermanded, and that the troops may be allowed to make themselves as comfortable as possible.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. WILSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Humphreys to Hancock, August 24, 8.20 p. m., p. 449.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General MOTT:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding thinks you had better have your troops between Fort Crawford and the fort at the Strong house moved forward to occupy and complete the rifle pits now partially erected. With your left at the fort, near the Strong house, your right ought to nearly reach Fort Crawford. The general does not desire the camp on the second line struck until the men have finished their breast-works. I will go over the line with one of your staff officers and General Pierce if you desire, and indicate as far as practicable what the general wishes done.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—10.40 a. m.

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding instructs me to say that he understands there is no garrison in the fort on the left of the plank road and that he deems it important that a small garrison should be put there as soon as possible, particularly to-day, as there are no working parties out.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. WILSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 2, 1864.

Col. ROBERT MCALLISTER,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that the troops of your command be moved up and complete and occupy the new line of works. The camps will not be broken up until the breast-works are completed. Major Willian will accompany you on the line and indicate as far as practicable the desires of the general.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. LOCKWOOD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—10 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report everything very quiet in my front during yesterday and last night. I send you two citizens, Messrs. Burgess and Batonn, who came into our lines this morning and escaped

from conscription. They are well posted as to the location of the enemy's works west of this point. One of them, Mr. Burgess, is a miller and has lived here a long time. Two deserters from First Tennessee Regiment have just been received and have been sent up.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 2, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

If the enemy should feel his way up near our left it is the intention of the commanding general to move out the available force on the left and the cavalry and attack. He desires, therefore, that you will remain prepared for such operation to-day until further orders. The enemy should be closely watched in that direction, and reconnaissances made by detachments from the Fifth Corps and from the cavalry to ascertain what movements, if any, he is making.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Brigadier-General Gregg.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Please state what you mean by the "left" in your dispatch just received. Is it south or west?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 2, 1864—10.35 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The left of the army was meant. The direction from your corps would be west or southwest, and even farther round west and southwest were the directions in which it was thought reconnaissances should be made.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 2, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The commanding general desires to know whether you have any information as to movements of the enemy in your vicinity.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have no information whatever of the movements of the enemy near me to-day.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I send you the following, just received:

HEADQUARTERS FIRST NEW JERSEY CAVALRY,
September 2, 1864.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division, Cavalry Corps:

I have the honor to report that I drove in the enemy's pickets on the railroad to within 400 yards of the junction of it with the Dinwiddie Court-House road, at which point the enemy appeared in force of about fifty, firing on my men, and on the Vaughan road I drove them across the swamp. Both these roads they had barricaded by trees and wires. Across the swamp they had a camp of cavalry, probably a reserve of their pickets. No movement of the enemy could be detected on either of these roads. The pickets belonged to Colonel Gregg's brigade, and were picketing strongly. The Second Brigade does not connect with my left, and this line is in good condition, excepting the left.

JOHN W. KESTER,
Colonel, Commanding Cavalry Pickets.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 2, 1864.

General WARREN:

The force of the enemy that attacked last evening not ascertained. The commander of pickets sends his report to the nearest commander of infantry, General Ferrero. I will instruct him to send you a report also.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864.

Lieut. Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Headquarters Fifth Army Corps:

SIR: By an act of treachery on the part of rebel officers, who approached our outposts on the Weldon railroad this morning, two commissioned officers were drawn out of the post and shot; one slightly, the other severely. They were fired on by about fifteen men posted near where the interview took place, and immediately after the rebel officer who conversed with them had left. The above is reported by the division picket officer. General Griffin has furnished me with a

few of his sharpshooters, who, I hope, will be able to punish this perfidy. As I understood the report our officers were invited out by the rebel officers, who waved papers, as if they desired to exchange orders concerning deserters, which have lately been exchanged by the pickets.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. P. STONE,
Colonel Fourteenth U. S. Infantry, in Temporary Command.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864. (Received 1.10 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. W. CRAWFORD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major general directs that you keep your command to-day in readiness for any emergency that may arise.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: You will please direct the battery with you (the Ninth Massachusetts Battery) to report without delay to Colonel Wainwright, commanding Artillery Brigade. The battery is to be placed in the new fort on the left.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—1 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Your dispatch received.* I have ordered General Potter's division to be in readiness at daylight; also the reserve artillery.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—12.50 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel MONROE,
Chief of Artillery:

COLONEL: The commanding general directs that you have your reserve batteries ready to move at daylight to the support of General Ferrero, should he require it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See September 1, 11.45 p. m., p. 643.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—6.45 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Everything quiet.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The following dispatch from the signal officer in front of General Warren is sent for your information, as the troops referred to are in your front:

SIGNAL STATION, HALIFAX ROAD, *September 2, 1864—8.20 a. m.*

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

About a brigade of infantry is now moving on the Squirrel road, one mile left of lead-works, going toward our left. Another brigade of infantry has advanced from the enemy's works left of lead-works toward their front in woods, with their right on the railroad. Considerable activity in all their camps.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain and Signal Officer.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—10 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report quiet on my front during the last twenty-four hours. Yesterday afternoon the enemy advanced their picket-line across the corn-field and into the woods in my front. Cavalry vedettes were heard in the woods during the night. Patrols sent out at daylight report that the enemy have withdrawn their picket to the position held by them yesterday a. m. During their stay in the woods they blockaded the roads. I reported this morning operations in my rear.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS:

I have just returned from Ferrero's line. He has a good position. With the addition of another battery and a cavalry outpost which I have ordered to be furnished, the only weak point on my front seems to be the salient where the new work is building, on which the woods press too closely, and I have ordered out 100 ax-men to slash that down at once.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 161. } *September 2, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

5. The Third Maryland Volunteer Battalion is hereby transferred from the Second Division, Brigadier-General Potter commanding, to the Third Division, Brigadier-General Hartranft commanding, and the commanding officer will report for orders accordingly.

6. The One hundred and seventy-ninth New York Volunteers is hereby transferred from the Third Division, Brigadier-General Hartranft commanding, to the Second Division, Brigadier-General Potter commanding, and the commanding officer will report for orders accordingly

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By command of Brigadier-General Willcox:

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—12.50 a. m.

Brigadier-General POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you hold your division in readiness to move at daylight to the support of General Ferrero should he require it. General Hartranft will extend his lines so as to cover the ground now occupied by your troops in case you are called upon to move as indicated above. If you are called upon to move, you will do so at once, commencing on the right, leaving General Hartranft to take up the line. Your pickets will not be relieved until after General Hartranft shall have got in position.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 9TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 105. } *Near Weldon Railroad, Va., September 2, 1864.*

I. The following regiments, viz, Twenty-first Massachusetts Volunteers, Thirty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, Fifty-sixth Massachusetts Volunteers, One hundred and seventy-ninth New York Volunteers, having been transferred to this division, are assigned as follows: To the First Brigade—Twenty-first Massachusetts Volunteers, Thirty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers; to the Second Brigade—Fifty-sixth Massachusetts Volunteers, One hundred and seventy-ninth New York Volunteers.

II. The commanding officers of the above regiments will report immediately to Col. John I. Curtin, commanding First Brigade, and to Brig. Gen. S. G. Griffin, commanding Second Brigade, respectively, as assigned by paragraph I of this order.

By command of Brigadier-General Potter:

SAML. WRIGHT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—12.50 a. m.

Brigadier-General HARTRANFT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you be prepared at daylight to extend your line so as to occupy, besides your own position, the front now covered by General Potter's division, should he be called upon to move to the support of General Ferrero. Should the movement be made, General Potter's pickets can be relieved after you get fully into position.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 47. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Aiken's House, Va., September 2, 1864.

I. In obedience to Special Orders, No. 160, paragraph 4, headquarters Ninth Army Corps, dated September 1, 1864, I hereby assume command of the Third Division, Ninth Army Corps, temporarily.

II. Capt. J. D. Bertolette, assistant adjutant-general, is temporarily assigned to the division staff.

III. Lieut. R. A. Watts is announced as aide-de-camp on the staff of the general commanding.

J. F. HARTRANFT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—12.50 a. m.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to say that should you be attacked in the morning, the Second Division and reserve batteries will be ready to move to your support at daylight, and he requests that you send him the earliest intelligence possible of any movement of the enemy, toward daylight, and to have your command in readiness to meet any emergency that may arise.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
[*September 2, 1864*]—*6.15 a. m.*

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

One of my brigades passed out directly west from General Warren's headquarters at 5 a. m. Last intelligence it was within three-quarters of a mile of the Petersburg and Dinwiddie plank road. But little opposition encountered. The brigade at this time is certainly on the plank road.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The brigade sent to strike the plank road moved at a rapid gait, driving pickets before them and reached a point less than three-quarters of a mile from the plank road, when it was met by two regiments of cavalry and a section of artillery. Skirmishing began when the commander of the brigade learned that a large force of cavalry was camped three miles south of his position. The road upon which the brigade moved strikes the plank road two miles from Petersburg and one mile from the first line of works. The brigade commander, satisfied that it was impracticable to accomplish the object of the expedition, returned with his command, the enemy appearing in his rear and using artillery. The cavalry under my command is now massed in rear of General Warren's headquarters, where I will await further orders. The roads followed is the same as that leading from Wyatt's.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
[*September 2, 1864*]—*8 a. m.*

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: Prisoners captured inform me that the whole of Dearing's brigade was at or in rear of the point where the advance regiments were met; also that at the point where the road followed by my brigade strikes the plank road, and for some distance below, the plank road is defended by earth-works occupied by infantry.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 2, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The commanding general desires to know whether you have any information as to movements of the enemy on the left.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: No movement of the enemy on the left has been discovered. The officers commanding pickets between railroad and plank road have been instructed to send information at once to Major-General Hancock. All quiet on the cavalry picket-line.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General, Cavalry Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 2, 1864—3.10 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The commanding general desires to know what your losses were, and what those of the enemy this morning.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 2, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: In the attempt to reach the plank road this morning, three men of the First Maine Cavalry were wounded. Three prisoners were captured from the enemy. What other loss the enemy may have had is not known.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 2, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

The cavalry is very closely massed in the only open space within our lines in this vicinity, a space too small for camping. If the command is to return to its former camp I would request that I may be permitted to send a portion away before dark, as the road across to the plank road is very difficult to travel in the dark. Parties sent out reconnoitering can discover no movement of the enemy in a southwesterly direction.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HATCHER'S, VA., *September 2, 1864.*
(Received 9.20 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Is there anything new in your front?

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 2, 1864. (Received 9.50 p. m.)

General ORD:

No; nothing new. A column of Gregg's cavalry made a dash close to the Boydton plank road, opposite Warren's headquarters, this morning early, but found the road guarded. The losses on both sides were few. Nothing further during the day.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE ARSENAL, VA.,
September 2, 1864.

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery, Broadway Landing:

SIR: Your letter of the 29th ultimo was received this morning, and in reply I have to state that the 13-inch shells called for in your requisition of the 23d instant were forwarded to City Point immediately on the receipt of your requisition. With regard to the cartridges for the 4.5-inch and 30-pounder rifled guns, I would state that some of them which have been sent you were prepared at this arsenal and some were received from New York and other arsenals. In preparing those sent from this arsenal, cannon powder has been used exclusively for the 4.5-inch and mortar powder for the 30-pounders. No mixture of different kinds of powder has been used.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. EDSON,
Captain of Ordnance, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 2, 1864—9 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The usual fatigue details on redoubt and work on camp police and strengthening trenches were carried on yesterday morning. The enemy were discovered pushing out a sap from their line to left of Hare house. I opened fire on it with artillery, which brought on a general artillery fire from batteries on each side. Our fire was good and stopped the work. The taking away of two strong regiments and cavalry pickets from my already attenuated line will compel me to reduce the fatigue details on redoubt. It was my understanding that in relieving the Eighteenth Corps it should be massed, except one division, to hold my former line at Spring Hill to support me holding a threatened line. I seem to be called on for all details and my line is very much reduced. I shall in a few days fall back to the new line, holding advanced line by pickets.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 115. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 2, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. Lieut. Col. R. H. Jackson, assistant inspector-general, is hereby temporarily appointed chief of artillery, and will assume the duties of that office, and the command of the Artillery Brigade, at once. The staff officers of the brigade will report to Lieutenant-Colonel Jackson immediately.

By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 108. } *Before Petersburg, Va., September 2, 1864.*

1. Maj. Vincent E. von Koerber, First Maryland Cavalry, is hereby detailed for duty as engineer officer of this division and will report for instructions to these headquarters.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 2, 1864.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that no changes have occurred in the dispositions of the reserves of the First Brigade. Instructions in regard to draining and cleaning the trenches have been received and are being carried out. The officer of the trenches yesterday reported that the enemy were engaged in running a sap near the center of our line, which report was at once forwarded to the brigadier-general commanding the First Division, at whose direction Colonel Howell opened two guns on the working party. The camp of the Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers was shelled yesterday evening, the shell passing directly over the brigade headquarters. One man was wounded, having his arm shot off. The officer of the trenches reports this morning all quiet. The enemy fired upon our line continually last night, wounding one man of the Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers. Two men from the same regiment were wounded by a shell yesterday. The enemy is still at work upon his new ditch and fired from it last night. The line could be much improved if some sand-bags were furnished. It is quite weak in some places. The casualties named are all that occurred in the past twenty-four hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS B. POND,
Colonel Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, Comdg. First Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 2, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that during the past twenty-four hours there have been no unusual movements on the part of the enemy. On the right of my line the troops are engaged in policing, strengthening, and raising the parapets and cutting abatis to be placed on that front; on the center, Colonel Barton's brigade in policing trenches, &c.; on my left, in raising and strengthening the parapets and draining the low ground mentioned in Captain Briscoe's report A covered way is nearly completed from the reserves to the trenches, materially shortening the distance heretofore necessary to go in order to reach the front. Sinks have been dug some distance to the rear, connected with the trenches by a covered way.

Respectfully, yours,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
September 3, 1864—8 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The telegraph line between Nashville and Chattanooga being broken we have had nothing south of Nashville to-day, and the next intelligence from Atlanta may come through the Richmond papers. If you get anything from that source please transmit to this Department.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 3, 1864—6.30 p. m.*
(Received 11 p. m.)

Hon. G. V. FOX,
Assistant Secretary of the Navy:

It is impossible at this time to say what effect Sherman's victory may have on the time of undertaking the enterprise you speak of.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 3, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from Finegan's and one from Harris' brigade report no change within the enemy's lines. They have heard of no troops arriving at Petersburg, either by rail or in any other way. They left their picket-line last night and arrived here this morning.

Very respectfully,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

JORDAN'S HOUSE, *September 3, 1864—11 a. m.*

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

About fifty horses are grazing in front of Whitehead's Factory. A train of cars is now standing on the Richmond railroad opposite this place and about one-third of a mile from Archer's battery toward Petersburg. Many soldiers without arms and citizens are going from Petersburg on the railroad toward the train. There is a rebel station of observation in a small house in front of the train. The enemy are still at work on Archer's battery; also on the earth-work opposite the Rushmore house. Three limbers for heavy pieces are in the works. The rebel signal officer reports the drilling of cavalry and artillery near Cobb's. Wagons moving to and from Bermuda Hundred and over pontoon. I send his last message.

Colonel VENABLE:

No farther movement. I report every movement as soon as it takes place.

R.,
Sergeant at C.

T. R. CLARK,
Captain and Signal Officer.

[Indorsement.]

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The within is forwarded. Perhaps some portions may be of interest.

B. F. FISHER,
Major.

SEPTEMBER 3, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

A new line of works appeared this morning extending along the ridge of the high ground near Petersburg. It forms a second continuous line from rear of exploded fort to three-quarters of a mile to left. Enemy are at work on exploded fort and at other points to left.

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 3, 1864—9 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Since last report little has been done on my lines. I received no notification as to whether there was any necessity for the troops remaining in readiness to move during the day, and was therefore able to work but a small party. I have, however, about 2,500 men at work this morning, and am now occupying the fort at the Strong house, and have moved forward and occupied the rifle-pit now being constructed between it and Fort Crawford. The Ninth Corps have not taken any steps apparently to connect on the other side.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 3, 1864. (Received 7.15 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

The Ninth Corps have not come forward to the fort yet. My line has gone forward, and I think they should have a practical connection.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 3, 1864. (Sent 7.30 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The delay in the connection of the Ninth Corps line with the Strong house redoubt was perhaps unavoidable, or from some misapprehension. It will be made to-morrow morning the first thing.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 3, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel MORGAN,
Inspector-General, Second Corps:

No system of designation has been established for redoubts and batteries. It is the custom to designate them from their locality as the Strong house redoubt, or from their character, as the redan or the fourteen-gun battery, or the large redoubt of the plank road. No name has been selected for the redoubt near the Strong house.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 3, 1864.

Col. ROBERT MCALLISTER,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs me to say that the part of the new parapet nearest the fort is seen by the enemy. Brush should be thrown up in front of it. The troops in camping will leave a street between their front tents and the parapet, so that it can be used as a parade ground and for the passage of troops along the rifle-pits. Streets will be cut to the rear without delay, so that every regiment will have a road to pass to the rear in case they are moved at any time. An abatis of sharpened timber or stakes will be put up about 200 yards in front of the rifle-pits and paths made for the pickets to pass in and out. There are some old rifle-pits near the fort in front of your new rifle-pits, which you will destroy. You will also prepare an abatis and place it in front of the fort.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES H. LOCKWOOD,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Brig. Gen. B. R. Pierce, Second Brigade.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that the Third Division (Crawford's) moved out yesterday at 3 a. m. to support the movement of General Gregg's cavalry. The division returned to its former camp about 7 a. m. Two officers, First Lieutenant Buckingham, One hundred and forty-sixth New York Volunteers, and Lieutenant Green, Fifth New York Volunteers, were shot by rebel sharpshooters yesterday morning at the picket-line near the Davis house. Lieutenant Buckingham died from the wound received. Everything very quiet during the day and night.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 3, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

While in my present position I deem it necessary that I should have an additional force of cavalry under my direct command of at least 200 men. General Gregg is distant from me, and only pickets from the railroad around to the eastward, and I continually wish information from the west and southwest. I got no information the other day when the enemy's cavalry drove our pickets in before the enemy himself appeared, and if our cavalry pickets should be driven in there by a line of battle of infantry I should have no notice at all. My escort amounts to only fifty, and this for patrolling, provost duty, &c., within the lines gives me nothing to send out.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 3, 18

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Gregg has been directed to send the detachment of 200 cavalry asked for by you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 3, 1864.

Major DUANE,
Engineer Corps:

Your fort on the road north of my headquarters has the defects on its north and south fronts that I cautioned you against. The flank angle is in the prolongation of the interior crest of the face of the bastion that flank is made for. It should have been on the prolongation of the exterior crest or between that and the prolongation of the scarp. By your present arrangement the flank is unduly increased, the interior space correspondingly diminished, and the excess of earth in front of the curtain, which perfect flanking arrangement requires to be removed, is very much increased in amount. On the whole, the defect I speak of is one which diminishes the interior space (a thing always to be avoided), increases the length of the parapet and labor of construction without benefit, and increases the dead spaces in front of the curtain. Your west front was so far from meeting flanking principles that I remodeled it myself. Your east front has no flanking arrangements, though it admitted of the same as I placed on the west front. What I consider errors in this work I have seen committed before, and would invite your attention to them for the sake of all concerned.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

(Same to Captain Howell.)

OFFICE OF PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
ARMIES OPERATING AGAINST RICHMOND, VA.,
September 3, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

MY DEAR GENERAL: When the family of refugees sent in by you came in I found they had an abundance of Southern States money, but otherwise were destitute of pecuniary means. The young child had the whooping cough, and two of the children were without shoes. The papers I could have given them would probably have insured their being forwarded to Philadelphia, with sundry delays while waiting on officials at sundry points. Besides, I had no way of providing for their subsistence, and on deliberation I handed to Mrs. Flowers the sum of $100, as I gathered from your note that the boys had really rendered you service. It seemed to me that such people should not go forward as mendicants, and I thought you would approve it. If this be so, will you please sign the within and return them to me through adjutant-general's office?

Very respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: Will you have directions given to the brigade camped near the fort on our left to be prepared to occupy it at short notice, to clear the entrance through the camp, so that artillery can enter and throw any abatis that may be inside the fort outside of the ditch on the northwest and southwest fronts?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 3, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report quiet on my front during the last twenty-four hours. All roads in front of the corps have been well blockaded. Scouts report no change in the enemy's line this morning.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Please have the connection of your rifle-pits with the redoubt at the Strong house made to-day and the line occupied.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
September 3, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS:

Your dispatch received. My line does not extend to the redoubt at the Strong house. There are troops of Second Corps on my right. If an engineer officer will meet me I will arrange my line so as to make the connection.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general learns that the line of the Ninth Corps is not yet connected with the Strong house redoubt. He desires to know why the delay occurs.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 3, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Brigadier-General Hartranft, who will please return with remarks.

By command of Brigadier-General Willcox:

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 3, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

No axes could be procured until nearly night to cut timber for the work, but every preparation was made to connect the line early in the morning.

J. F. HARTRANFT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 3, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

In answer to your inquiry I have to state that a messenger from an engineer officer reported to me about 3 p. m. that the new line was staked out and that he was sent to show its location. This was the first information since my dispatch to you this morning. I at once sent him to General Hartranft with an officer and orders to go to work at once and occupy the line this morning. But the general reported about 5 o'clock that the tools were all in use. You will remember the left of the line is being rebuilt. Meantime tools are got up and the work shall be prosecuted with vigor to-morrow.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

The major-general commanding directs that you send a detachment of 200 cavalry to report for duty to Major-General Warren, until further orders.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 3, 1864.

Major-General ORD:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I have just received the Richmond paper and thank you for it. Nothing new. I have just had some prisoners; they say everything is quiet. The enemy's brigades do not, I find, number more than 400 to 600 men so far as I have examined the prisoners, and I have had many.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

WATER BATTERY, *September 3, 1864—11 a. m.*

Captain NORTON,
Chief Signal Officer, Butler's Headquarters:

The rebs are evidently building a magazine in their new works this a. m. They have a line of short rifle-pits intrenching from the works to the river.

PARTRIDGE,
Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 30. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 3, 1864.

Capt. C. M. Robins, commissary of subsistence of volunteers, is hereby announced as the acting chief commissary of subsistence of the corps.

By command of Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing new on our lines. During cheering of troops as to Atlanta news the enemy opened upon us. This caused a little more than usual firing. Lieutenant-Colonel McGilvery, my chief of artillery, died suddenly yesterday from effects of chloroform taken during amputation of finger, wounded at battle Deep Bottom. I have appointed Lieutenant-Colonel Jackson, acting chief artillery.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 3, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that during the past twenty-four hours there has been no movement on the part of the enemy on my front or change in the disposition of my own command. The troops of Colonel Curtis' brigade are engaged in strengthening and repairing the intrenchments and abatis. Colonel Barton's line being situated on higher ground is more easily repaired, and the improvements in progress on the intrenchments and for policing are nearly completed. A portion of Colonel Osborn's line is on low ground and requires considerable time and labor to put it in proper order. His troops are engaged in raising the parapet and forming a suitable banquette. I copy the following extract from Colonel Osborn's report regarding policing on his part of the line:

By persistent efforts in the last-named my trenches have been brought from the extremely filthy condition in which I found them to a state in which it is possible for men to live with the hope of retaining their health. As they are in a hollow, the drainage is very difficult, but I hope to succeed in accomplishing it by running a drain 200 or 300 yards to the rear.

Very respectfully, yours,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 3, 1864—8 p. m.

Captain WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: A report has just come in from Major Baker from Sycamore Church.* He reports that a train of two wagons, escorted by a non-commissioned officer and six men, was attacked whilst returning from his camp to these headquarters; three of the men and six of the mules were captured. A force was sent in pursuit that came upon the enemy in superior force and there was a severe fight. Captain Hamilton, who was in command of the pursuing party, was compelled to fall back with the loss of 1 man killed and 3 wounded. Captain Hamilton was slightly wounded. The report does not state either time or place, and is rather indefinite. Major Baker does not ask for assistance. I infer that it occurred early this morning as the regiment was taking up its position at Sycamore Church. I have sent for further particulars.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 3, 1864—10 p. m.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding.

All quiet on the line of the Second Division.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Division.

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* See Part I, p. 842.

HDQRS. SECOND DIV. CAVALRY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. V. KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: General Gregg directs me to ask what portion of the right of your line he shall relieve when you send the eight companies of the First District of Columbia Cavalry to this command, and when you purpose sending them. This question with a view to ascertain the time and the point to be taken up by this division. Your communication received just now. Ascertain particulars. Latest news from Atlanta say that Hood left his works, went and fought Sherman, and was whipped. The corps which Sherman left in front Atlanta marched into Atlanta, and occupies the place. Very quiet here.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 4, 1864.*

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

A line should be selected at once in rear of our present line, and facing from it, which can be taken at any time if the enemy should come in from the rear. Some preparation should also be taken to make it defensible. If Major Duane is not able for such duty no one could select such a line better than General Humphreys.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 4, 1864.*

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

A scout sent from Washington to Gordonsville, and who left the latter place on the 1st instant, reports that Early's forces commenced passing there on the 28th, on their way to Richmond, and were still passing when he left. They avowed their purpose of driving us from the Weldon road. Breckinridge was left in the Valley with orders to hold it. A close watch must be kept upon the enemy, and every preparation made to receive an attack. My own impression is that if the enemy attack, and I expect it, he will hold his present lines from the James River to the Weldon road with a force not exceeding three divisions. With the balance they will likely march entirely around our left and attack in rear near the Jerusalem plank road. Should they do so, all our troops to the left of the point of attack should be instructed to move at once against the enemy, leaving only garrisons for the inclosed works. All troops to the right should also be taken to face the enemy, leaving not to exceed 2,000 men to the mile to hold the intrenchments. With proper vigilance the cavalry will be able to give timely notice of the point of attack, if made.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 4, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

Your two dispatches received. Immediate arrangements will be made to meet the contingency promptly. The lookout at Friend's house reported to-day a column of troops, 2,500 strong, moving on the road from Richmond to Petersburg.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 4, 1864.*

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I will be at your headquarters at 10.30 to-morrow (Monday). General Grant wishes me to consult you and Major Duane about a line in our rear.

J. G. BARNARD,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 4, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from Finegan's brigade, who left his picket-line last night, reports no changes within the enemy's lines. He has heard nothing indicating the recent arrival or departure of troops.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain.

P. S.—There are 110 regiments, or twenty-two brigades, in our front (south of Appomattox River). By general comparison of deserters' statements I judge that these regiments do not average 200 men each.

Respectfully,

J. McE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 4, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from Mahone's division, who left their picket-post this morning about sunrise, just arrived here, and report no changes in the position of the enemy. Law's brigade, of Field's division, is lying in a ravine in rear of Mahone. One of these men has friends in the brigade, and saw them there last evening. They have been lying in that position since General Hancock's fight at Reams' Station, and informant states that while he was with the Fourth Alabama (Law's brigade) last evening they received orders to be ready to march at a moment's notice. Other slight indications that another fight was in prospect induced these men to leave this morning. One

of these men, from Ninth Alabama, states that there are eighty-seven muskets in his regiment, and not more than 600 in the brigade. He is an intelligent man, and has a good general idea of enemy's organization. He is certain that the brigades of Mahone's division do not average 800 men, and from general observation, he thinks, the other brigades in Hill's corps very little larger. The brigades of Lee's army, he thinks, will not average 1,000 men. Law's brigade, he thinks, is the only one of Field's in our front. Neither of these men have heard of the arrival of troops from Early or elsewhere. Provisions for Mahone's division are all cooked near the South Side Railroad depot and carried to the front every night by the cooks. It is from them that the men generally get the news, and they think had any troops arrived there by rail they would have heard of it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 4, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major FISHER:

At 12 m. a train of twelve wagons loaded with forage came from our left, moving toward Petersburg. Enemy's lines unusually quiet.

H. W. FULTON.

SEPTEMBER 4, 1864—7 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

There has been considerable stir in enemy's lines this p. m., but I have not been able to catch any movement of account. One piece of artillery and caisson moved out of town toward the left at 3 p. m. Several small squads of infantry moving in different directions all p. m., but nothing heavy.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 240. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 4, 1864.

The leave of absence recently granted to Brig. Gen. J. White, U. S. Volunteers, by the commander of the Ninth Corps, for the benefit of his health, is extended ten days.

By command of Major-General Parke:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 4, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The following dispatch* from the lieutenant-general commanding the armies in the field is sent for your information and guidance. The

* See Grant to Parke, beginning—A line, &c., p. 682.

major-general commanding directs that corps commanders holding on the left of the plank road so arrange their troops and artillery on the left of that road that they may be withdrawn promptly, with the exception of the garrisons and armaments of the inclosed works, which will remain to hold the line. The corps commanders holding on the right of the plank road will so arrange their troops as to be able at any moment to withdraw all but 2,000 men to the mile, and move them promptly to meet an attack from the rear. They will also keep in view the contingency of holding the line solely with the inclosed works as far as the Hare house. Their reserve artillery will likewise be held ready to move. A line will be at once selected in rear of the line now held upon which to meet an attack upon the rear. Due notice will be given of the positions to be occupied in it by the different corps upon the happening of such contingency.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Generals Warren, Birney, and Willcox.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 4, 1864—9.35 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK:

The following dispatch* has just been received from Lieutenant-General Grant. The commanding general directs that you cause the instructions it conveys to be at once complied with so far as your command is concerned.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Major-General Birney.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 4, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

In view of the information you send I would like to suggest the expediency of putting a redoubt at the Smith house and one at the Williams house, if time permits, [*sic*] the road from the plank road toward Gurley's, properly Smith's, which is in a considerable clearing on high ground. There, also, are roads more or less good running to the railroad.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 4, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

A line will be thrown up at once from Warren's left to the Williams house, and cover for as much artillery as can be established at the

* See Grant to Parke, beginning—A scout, &c., p. 682.

Williams house and Smith house; redoubts will be put up there if time admits, which is doubtful. The redoubt at the Gurley house will be worked at to-night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 143. } HDQRS. ARTY. BRIG., 2D ARMY CORPS,
September 4, 1864.

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The batteries on the line will be in readiness to move at short notice, but will not hitch and harness until further orders. Batteries not on the line will be ready to move at very short notice, but will not hitch and harness until further orders.

By command of Maj. John G. Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 143. } HDQRS. ARTY. BRIG., 2D ARMY CORPS,
September 4, 1864.

During the temporary absence of Maj. John G. Hazard, Capt. F. M. Edgell, First New Hampshire Battery, senior officer, will assume command of the brigade.

By command of Maj. John G. Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 4, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: In reply to yours of the 3d instant I would state that General Meade, in conversation at my headquarters on the morning after the battle at Reams' Station, did say that you had from 16,000 to 20,000 troops at your command. To make this number it was understood that he (General Meade) included General Willcox's division, of the Ninth Corps, and the parts of two brigades from this division, which were ordered to report to you.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. G. MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires you to hold your line with not more than 2,000 men to the mile of intrenchments on the right of the plank road. On the left preparations will be made to hold the lines by means of the redoubt on the plank road and the one at the Strong house and the usual picket. To this end the abatis will be perfected and the ground cleared as well as practicable, to allow the forts

to have a fair sweep. Any remains of old intrenchments on this front must be taken down. The general desires you to select a good reliable commander for each of these forts. The one at the Strong house will be garrisoned by about 400 and Fort Crawford by about 600 men. Further instructions will be given after an examination of the line in the morning, but meanwhile you are requested to keep your men at work as indicated. These preparations are very necessary, as information has been received that Early has retired from the Valley and an attack is expected in the direction of the Jerusalem plank road, which it will require all available troops to meet. The general would like the picket-line of the enemy in your front disposed of as soon as you consider the nights favorable. He also wishes you to caution your commanders to watch the movements of the enemy, reporting any changes in their dispositions of troops.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. P. WILSON,

Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,

September 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. DE TROBRIAND,

Commanding First Brigade:

GENERAL: It is reported that General Early, with his corps, is coming down and will probably make an attack on or near the Jerusalem plank road. You will make arrangements so that you can hold the works with about one-half of your brigade and the artillery. You may have to withdraw the balance at any time. The instructions are to hold the intrenchments with 2,000 men to a mile. I estimate your front at about one-half a mile, and think the above number can be withdrawn. You will caution your command to be very watchful and report any movement of the enemy without delay.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,

Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,

September 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. R. PIERCE,

Commanding Second Brigade:

GENERAL: The brigadier-general commanding directs me to inform you that it is reported that General Early, with his corps, is coming down and will probably make an attack on or near the Jerusalem plank road. You will select a good reliable commander for the fort near the Strong house. You may have to withdraw your command, with the exception of 400 men for the garrison at the fort, and your pickets at any moment. In the meantime you will keep your men at work to perfect the abatis, and have the ground cleared so that the guns at the fort will have a fair sweep. Any remains of old intrenchments in front should be taken down. You will caution your command to be very watchful and report any movement of the enemy without delay.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. LOCKWOOD,

Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HDQRS. THIRD DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 4, 1864.

Col. ROBERT MCALLISTER,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to inform you that it is reported that General Early is coming down and will likely make an attack on or near the Jerusalem plank road. You will perfect the abatis in your front and around the fort. A good commander will be selected for the fort and a garrison of 600 men for the same. It may be necessary to withdraw the rest of your forces, with the exception of your picket-line, at any moment. In the meanwhile keep your men at work as above, and have the ground cleared as well as practicable to allow the forts to have a fair sweep. Any old breastworks in your front will be destroyed.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. H. LOCKWOOD,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

You will instruct your picket to be very watchful and your men vigilant, and report promptly to these headquarters any movements or changes of the enemy.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance occurred in my front during yesterday or last night. Details numbering 2,400 men were at work yesterday on the defenses.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 4, 1864—9.40 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Two deserters from Cobb's Legion (Georgia cavalry) came in last evening. They say they belong in Maine, and were conscripted about three months ago. They are now on their way to army headquarters, mounted on their own horses.

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 4, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual has taken place on my line during the last twenty-four hours. Scouting parties report the

enemy still in our front, but not in large force; one of their vedette posts was found this morning abandoned. I inclose a document printed in German, picked up between our lines and those of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 4, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

The following report has been received from the Third Division officer of the day:

The picket-line of Second Brigade has been advanced 100 yards in advance of the ground occupied this morning. The lines on the left of the First Brigade and right of Third Brigade were advanced to form a complete connection. Scouts were sent out. On return report the enemy's vedettes on the edge of the woods; also report the enemy very busy at work on fortifications 300 yards beyond the vedettes.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 4, 1864. (Received 1.15 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Hartranft reports that the work connecting with the redoubt at the Strong house will be entirely completed this afternoon.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 4, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you at once have all the force possible put upon the construction of the redoubt at the Gurley house and upon the line from the Gurley house to Warren's left, and that the work be pushed to completion as rapidly as possible. Major Michler will have the line from the Gurley house to the Williams house staked out to-morrow morning and will inform you as soon as it is done. The commanding general directs that you at once put upon it as strong working parties as practicable and have it finished as soon as possible.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 4, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I can put about 3,000 colored troops on the work at the Gurley house and line connecting with Warren in the morning. Five hundred white troops are detailed for the corduroy road and it will require a consider-

able force to slash trees in front of the new line toward Petersburg so as to give an unobstructed view from one main redoubt to the other. As soon as a line is staked out from the Gurley to Williams house I will throw on it all the available white troops, say two-thirds, exclusive of the parties on the road. Please telegraph me if this arrangement is satisfactory to the major-general commanding.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Your dispatch received. The work on the Gurley house redoubt and the line from there to Warren's line should be commenced at once and continued through the night. The slashing you mentioned should be continued to-morrow. One-half the available white troops for the line between the Gurley and Williams house would be better than two-thirds.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Major Duane says the engineer officer who staked the work out is at the Gurley house with the engineer company there. He belongs to the Fiftieth New York. Major Duane is instructed to order him to report to you in person at once.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 4, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: All quiet along cavalry line of pickets.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 4, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

Information has been received of the passage through Gordonsville, on their way to Richmond and Petersburg, of a large part of Early's troops, beginning on the 28th ultimo and continuing when the informant left there on the 1st instant. The lieutenant-general commanding

the armies in the field anticipates an attack, and from the rear, and the major-general commanding enjoins strict vigilance on the part of all the troops, but especialy upon the cavalry. Please let me know with some detail the line of cavalry pickets, and have them pushed out as far as practicable, particularly on the west and southwest. The various attacks on the cavalry pickets a few days ago may have been for the purpose of ascertaining the best mode of approaching and attacking our rear, and the pickets should, therefore, be pushed out farther. Please enjoin upon all the necessity of prompt and rapid communication of intelligence of the enemy.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

In the event of an attack by the enemy on our rear, it is probable their cavalry would endeavor to cross the Blackwater at some points below where we hold, and come up upon our trains between City Point and our lines. Please keep this in view as among the contingencies.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 87. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., September 4, 1864.

* * * * * * *

IV. On surgeon's certificate of disability, leave of absence for fifteen days is hereby granted Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord, commanding Eighteenth Army Corps.

V. Maj. Gen. John Gibbon, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby temporarily assigned to the command of the Eighteenth Army Corps.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. SETH WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to transmit the following report received from the signal officer:

3.50 P. M.

The lookout at Friend's house reports a column of troops 2,500 strong, with four stand of colors, coming from Richmond toward Petersburg.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *September 4, 1864.*

Colonel SHAFFER,
General Butler's Headquarters:

Lieutenant General Grant desires me to ask if any rebel troops have been seen from the Point of Rocks observatory moving from Richmond toward Petersburg. If so, in what force and at what times?

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 4, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel COMSTOCK,
Aide-de-Camp, City Point:

There have been no troops seen moving from the signal tower.

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 4, 1864.

The following is a synopsis of dispatches received from Lieutenant-General Grant and headquarters Army of the Potomac: An attempt on the part of the enemy to drive us from the Weldon road is anticipated. It is thought they will march around our left and attack us in rear. Should they do so, all our troops to the left of the point of attack will move against the enemy, leaving only garrisons in the inclosed works. The troops on the right of the plank road will be so arranged as to be able to be withdrawn at any moment, all but 2,000 men to the mile, and move promptly to meet an attack from the rear. It may be necessary to hold the line as far as the Hare house solely with the inclosed works.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 4, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the artillery of the corps during the last twenty-four hours: The enemy opened fire upon the batteries on the extreme left, but with little effect, and were soon silenced. There was but little firing on the right during the day. Captain Riggs' battery (H), Third New York Artillery, expended seventy-five rounds on the enemy's working parties at work on the hill to the left of the railroad. Lieutenant Stitt, Battery A, First Pennsylvania, reports twenty-five rounds expended. He has the crater in his immediate front and is in a good position to injure the enemy's works. Captain Orwig, Battery E, First

Pennsylvania, reports an expenditure of fifty-seven rounds. The whole number of rounds expended by the artillery is 227. The enemy opened quite briskly from their mortar batteries about 7.30 or 8 o'clock last evening. No casualties. The sanitary condition of works and batteries is constantly and rapidly improving. With the exception of the Hare battery the whole line is in fair order.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. JACKSON,

Lieut. Col., Assistant Inspector-General and Chief of Artillery.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 25. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS, *Before Petersburg, Va., September 4, 1864.*

Rebel newspapers frequently afford information of the greatest value even when, to the casual observer, they seem to contain no items of any importance. Hereafter all such papers received within our lines, whether by gift, purchase, or exchange, by any commissioned officer or enlisted man, will be immediately sent to these headquarters, in order that they may be forwarded to the major-general commanding.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,

Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS, *Before Petersburg, Va., September 4, 1864.*

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor most respectfully to make the following report of operations on the picket-line in front of this brigade during the past twenty-four hours: The enemy still continue to work at the fort which was blown up by us, extending and strengthening their lines, making work which will cause us much trouble when completed. During yesterday they were throwing dirt on the right of the railroad close to the deep cut. Our trenches are being placed in as good condition as possible. I would state that in our front near the ravine are three dead bodies (our men) unburied. We cannot get to them to bury them unless under a flag of truce. During the night constant firing has been kept up by the enemy's pickets.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS B. POND,

Colonel Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, Commanding First Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS, *Near Petersburg, September 4, 1864.*

Col. N. M. CURTIS,

Commanding First Brigade:

An attack from the enemy is anticipated on the part of our line near the Weldon railroad. In such an event the withdrawal of a portion of the troops of this command will be necessary. The brigadier-general commanding directs that you hold your command in readiness

to occupy the whole division front in case such a withdrawal is needed. The Forty-seventh New York and Ninth Maine Regiments will report to you in addition to your own brigade. All of One hundred and forty-second New York will be brought onto the line, except enough to guard the fords of the river. This will give you about 1,650 available men. You will have charge of the entire line and will be held responsible for its proper defense. All cooks, clerks, and other special and extra duty men on the line, also all convalescents, will be used in defense. These dispositions are understood by the commanding officers of the other brigades and will be carried into effect promptly if orders are received.

Respectfully, yours,

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
September 4, 1864—2 p. m.

General RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

I have arrived here and assumed command of the Eighteenth Corps.

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 16. } HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, OFFICE CHIEF OF ARTILLERY, *September 4, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

2. Major Cook, First Connecticut Artillery, having reported for duty, is placed in charge of the batteries of his regiment and the companies of the Thirteenth New York Artillery and of the Third Pennsylvania Artillery, now on duty within the limits of the Eighteenth Army Corps.

By command of A. Piper, colonel and chief of artillery:

F. W. PAUL,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 4, 1864—9 a. m.

Captain WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: In reply to your dispatch of last evening, I have to state that, as the execution of the order regarding the First District of Columbia Cavalry is not intrusted to me, I cannot say when the transfer will be made. There is great dissatisfaction in the regiment about the order, and the officers say it will be countermanded. It virtually breaks up and destroys one of the most efficient regiments in the service. They are much discouraged by the order, as they have heretofore felt great pride in their regiment on account of being armed with a peculiar and effective weapon. If General Gregg would picket the portion of the line between the railroad and the plank road it would

enable me to have a reserve force to explore the front of the picket-line and break up the rendezvous of the bushwhackers. I have not yet heard from Sycamore Church, and presume that everything is quiet in that vicinity.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. FIRST DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CAVALRY,
Sycamore Church, Va., September 4, 1864.

[Col. S. P. SPEAR:]

COLONEL: I have the honor to state that from indications I am led to believe that the rebels are in some force in our front. They frequently pass around our left in small parties below Cocke's Mill, getting in our rear.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. S. BAKER,
Major, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE,
Olive Branch Church, September 4, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the commanding general.

I have instructed Maj. J. S. Baker to use every precaution to prevent surprise, and to watch closely and obtain, if possible, information as to the force of the enemy.

SAM. WETHERILL,
Major Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, Commanding Brigade.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 4, 1864—7 p. m.

Respectfully referred to General Gregg.

Reports from other portions of the line report all quiet. I cannot re-enforce Major Baker without abandoning other portions of the line.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 4, 1864—9 p. m.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding.

I have ordered a regiment of General Kautz, picketing between the plank road and Norfolk railroad, to be relieved by one of the Second Division, that General Kautz may send his regiment to support his pickets at Sycamore Church.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Fort Magruder, Va., September 4, 1864.

Maj. WICKHAM HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Eastern Virginia:

SIR: I am sorry to report the loss of three of my command belonging to Troop H, Twentieth New York Cavalry, in the following manner: I received a telegram to send an ambulance for three sick men to Jamestown Island. I accordingly ordered an ambulance and sent to Lieutenant Lee, commanding Troop H, for an escort, but he could furnish only three men, one of whom was a corporal just come off picket duty. They started with the ambulance, and when within about a mile of Jamestown Island they were fired upon from the woods by a party of fifteen guerrillas. The corporal was killed and the privates either killed, wounded, or taken prisoners, but the ambulance driver escaped with his vehicle while the cavalry were fighting. The body of the corporal has been recovered, but no traces of the privates. The horses of the corporal and one private came in after the ambulance. There were marks of blood upon them. The other horse was captured. Upon learning of the occurrence by telegram I sent a squad of twenty-one men (all that could be got together—some of them sick), under Lieutenant Lee, whose report I herewith forward. I would urgently request an additional force of cavalry at this post. The two companies I have lost were invaluable, they being intimately acquainted with the country, having been here for more than a year. I have captured through these companies 1 commissioned officer, 3 privates of the Fifth Virginia Cavalry, and a few guerrillas. I am called upon for guards at all the Government farms between Fort Monroe and Fort Magruder. I have not half the command to perform the guard duty required. A large number of my own regiment are sick, and a majority of the cavalry are in the same condition. My men are on duty every other day for picket.

I remain, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. J. MORRISON,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. TROOP H, TWENTIETH NEW YORK CAVALRY,
Fort Magruder, Va., September 4, 1864.

Col. J. J. MORRISON,
Commanding Fort Magruder:

COLONEL: In accordance with orders received from you September 3, 1864, I proceeded to Jamestown Island in search of the guerrilla party who fired upon ambulance guard from Company H, Twentieth New York Cavalry. I scoured the country within ten miles of the place of attack, but could discover none of the enemy. I succeeded in recovering the body of the corporal in charge of guard, who was found with fourteen buckshot holes in his body; I also recovered 2 horses and equipments, 1 Sharps carbine, and one saber. The guard were fired on from ambush, and lost 1 man killed and 2 taken prisoners (one of them badly wounded), 1 horse and equipments, 2 Sharps carbines, and 2 sabers. On inquiry I found a number of the citizens in the neighborhood away from home, and in some cases their families were unable to tell where they were. I have no doubt that the guerrilla party in question was composed of citizens of that neighborhood. In order to get together a sufficient number of men to make this trip I was forced to take the men who had just been relieved from twenty-four hours' picket

duty, besides some who were unwell and not fit for duty, remaining out over night. There were not men left in camp to relieve the picket guard, and they have been forced to remain on duty forty-eight hours. I, therefore, respectfully request that more cavalry be furnished this post, that in case of another attack of this kind sufficient men may be on hand to send a force out, and leave enough in camp to do the regular picket duty required.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN D. LEE,
Lieutenant, Comdg. Company H, Twentieth New York Cavalry.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EASTERN VIRGINIA,
Norfolk, Va., September 7, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, calling attention of the commanding general to the urgent necessity for another company of cavalry at and near Yorktown. I have none to send.

G. F. SHEPLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, *September 5, 1864—6 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Launches ordered by telegraph from here, Philadelphia, and New York. Vessels beginning to arrive at Hampton Roads. Admiral Porter returns from the West to-morrow, and will go direct to you. The information and maps I sent you some time since were furnished by a Northern man who left the South very lately, and he has resided at W. thirty years. He knows the sentiments of people on the coast, and has other information, and as Governor Andrew vouches for him I will send him down in the boat that carries Admiral Porter.

G. V. FOX,
Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

CITY POINT, *September 5, 1864.* (Received 10.30 a. m.)

Major-General PARKE:

Colonel Spear reports that the enemy made his appearance at different points between Sycamore Church and Cocke's Mill. I think it advisable to send a brigade of cavalry in that direction to feel the enemy and drive what force he has in that quarter entirely off. This should be done at once.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 5, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Deserters from Harris', Finegan's, Mahone's, and Wright's brigades, who left their picket posts last night and arrived here this morning, report no changes in Mahone's division. One of

these men reports that about 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon he saw two brigades of Field's division pass through Petersburg. There were two wagon-loads of intrenching tools accompanying the column. They came from the north side of the Appomattox, and were going to the right of the enemy's line. He does not know what brigades they were, but was told they belonged to Field's division. None of these men have heard of the arrival of troops by rail.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 5, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: A deserter from Scales' brigade, Wilcox's division, who left his command to-day and just arrived here reports no change in Wilcox's division. He states that night before last Fry's brigade, of Heth's division, marched around their right flank and went down the plank road. He does not know their destination, and thinks they have not yet returned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 5, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Two deserters from Cobb's (Georgia) Legion, who left their command yesterday morning, just arrived here. They are natives of Maine; have lived south about five years, and about three weeks ago were conscripted. They state that a few days ago they overheard the officers of their regiment talking about the strength of their cavalry force. They concluded that there were not more than 4,500 mounted men in Hampton's command, and about 2,000 dismounted. I think, however, that their estimate in regard to dismounted men is rather small. There are 100 mounted men and 400 dismounted in Cobb's Legion. The Seventh Georgia has about 40 mounted and 350 dismounted. Dearing's and Gary's brigades are nearly all mounted. They left their brigade yesterday morning on the Vaughan road about six miles from Reams' Station.

Very respectfully,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 5, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Two deserters from Eighth Alabama, Mahone's division, report no change in position of that command. They left their regiment this afternoon, and came in near the plank road. They report

that last evening they saw Bratton's brigade, of Field's division, march through Petersburg, and they heard that they were going down toward Stony Creek. This may be the force which deserter from Scales' brigade saw moving around their right flank (reported to-day). They are quite intelligent men, one of them a sergeant.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS,
September 5, 1864—5.10 p. m.

Colonel SHARPE:

Four deserters from Twenty-fourth Virginia, one from Eleventh Virginia, Terry's brigade, Pickett's division, and one from Thirty-second Virginia, Corse's brigade, came over yesterday, having received General Grant's circular on the picket-line. They bring no news. One said he heard rumors day before yesterday that part of Early's troops were coming to Petersburg, but did not know where the report originated.

FRED. L. MANNING,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

SEPTEMBER 5. 1864. (Received 6.55 p. m.)

Colonel SHARPE:

Had two deserters from Sixth Georgia, Colquitt's brigade, Heth's division. One said that a division from Early's command passed through Petersburg last night for the right. Such, he said, was stated by everybody, and it was the opinion of his officers that we were stretching toward the Danville road, and this division was to prevent our reaching it. The other one corroborated the story. Both said that the idea of driving us off the Weldon road was given up. Two deserters from the ram Virginia were forwarded me from the flag-ship. Three deserters from the Forty-fourth Tennessee, Bushrod Johnson's old brigade, at Cox's farm, brought no news.

FRED. L. MANNING,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 5, 1864. (Received 7.50 a. m.)

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point, Va.:

Hundreds of the orders have been sent over our front by kite-flying. I saw a copy printed in the Richmond Examiner. Some of the deserters that came here know it, but the majority do not.*

FRED. L. MANNING,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

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*Reference is to Special Orders, No. 82, Armies of the United States, August 28, 1864, p. 555.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 5, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following report has been received from the plank road station:

8 A. M.

All quiet. Small fatigue parties are at work at different points of enemy's line. No change of camps visible.

H. W. FULTON.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

SEPTEMBER 5, 1864—9 a. m.

Major FISHER:

Enemy at work at the exploded fort, digging, &c. They are mostly hidden from view in their works. All quiet at other points.

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

P. S.—I will report in reference to that horse to-morrow.

PLANK ROAD STATION, *September 5, 1864.*

Major FISHER:

At 4 p. m. a regiment of colored troops moved down plank road toward Jones' house, shelled by enemy. About 5 p. m. a column of dust was seen west of Weldon railroad in edge of woods and extending from large fort southward. It continued about half an hour. No other movement visible.

FULTON.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864—9 a. m. (Received 9.30 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

Two deserters from Mahone's brigade have just come in. One of them says he saw two brigades of Field's division pass through Petersburg from the other side of the Appomattox and go to their right. One brigade was Bratton's. The time they commenced passing was about 3 in the afternoon. Had heard nothing of Early.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864. (Received 9.30 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

Yesterday being Sunday, little work was done on my line. This morning fatigue parties are at work slashing and perfecting abatis.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864. (Received 9.15 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

Having occupied the ground in this vicinity so long, I am tolerably familiar with it, and will offer another suggestion, which may save time to engineer officers. At the house marked Widow Smith's on the map is an excellent place for a redoubt. It is in a direct line with the Williams house and redoubt on the Norfolk road, and about half way between, and is in a commanding position. This would complete a chain from Warren's left, making four redoubts in all.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Aiken House, September 5, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding requests that you will take charge of the rear line from and including the Williams house and vicinity to the junction with the old line between the plank road and the Norfolk railroad. The engineer officer engaged upon the work will be directed accordingly and receive your directions.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864. (Received 3.50 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

How many of my troops does the general desire moved on to the line referred to?

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 5, 1864—8.40 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

General Birney will complete the occupation of the second line of his front to-night, holding the first line of intrenchments with pickets only. This may require General Mott to modify his arrangement of troops on his right.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 5, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The engineers call for a detail of 2,000 men for work near the Williams house. I have now about 1,300 men at work. My reserve is not

very large. To fill this detail I shall be obliged to take most, if not all, of the division at the Deserted House. Is there any objection to moving it up to the Williams house?

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 5, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

There is no objection to moving the division to the points of work.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 5, 1864. (Received 9.28 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

I have but two batteries I can dispose of with my weak infantry force. The great strength of my line should be in artillery, and I would like to know if the chief of artillery can dispose the batteries so as to relieve some of mine. Five batteries are necessary on the line from the Williams house to Norfolk [railroad], and more would be serviceable in case of attack in that direction.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 5, 1864. (Received 9.30 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The engineers call on me for several details for work to-morrow. If I furnish them it will prevent me from doing much on the line on the left. My troops, already pretty well worked, are being worked to-night on the new line. I will furnish them for whatever purpose you consider most important, but I can hardly complete the line assigned me, even with all my disposable troops, not over 5,000, or 5,000 working men.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864—10 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

A deserter from the Forty-second Mississippi, of Davis' brigade, who deserted off picket this evening, says that the cooks who came out to the picket from the regiment to-night told him that three divisions of Longstreet's corps passed to their right this afternoon. The deserter is positive he saw Longstreet to-night. He says he was along the breastworks with Lee. He says the talk among the men was that Longstreet's

corps had gone to our left to flank us off the railroad. When he left his own regiment had one day's rations only on hand. He saw none of Longstreet's troops himself. I suppose you got the report from the signal station this afternoon, reporting a heavy cloud of dust west of Weldon railroad, extending southward and continuing half an hour. Thinks none of Hill's or Beauregard's troops have moved.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Respectfully forwarded for what it is worth.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Major Duane proposed to connect the large redoubt on plank road, Fort Crawford, with the advanced work by a line of abatis. Some connection ought to be made without delay. I have two batteries in reserve. If a strong abatis or palisading is made as above I could get out another. General Mott has about twenty guns on the right of his line, and thinks one battery could be spared from this particular place. None of them, however, belong to my corps, but one might be taken to replace one of my own batteries, say Ames', and I would then have three or four batteries available to move. General Mott has now on his line, beginning at the Strong house, forty-nine guns.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 5, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

General Hunt is looking up some batteries for you, and will dispose those he gets so as to relieve some of yours now in position. I understand the engineers have asked for 3,000 men. Of these 1,000 are for the abatis, wiring, and draining of covered ways, all on Mott's front. The abatis and wiring, I understand from Major Duane, ought to be completed in six hours' work. The abatis and wiring, I believe, you regard as essential to the security of your front, and they should therefore claim precedence over other work. The 2,000 men are for the epaulements, rifle-pits, and slashing at the Williams house and that vicinity. This is one of the most important parts of the rear line and should perhaps take precedence of the continuation of the line toward the Norfolk railroad, if both cannot go on at the same time. But probably it would be best to equalize the strength of the working parties on those two parts of the rear line if you cannot supply the full requisition of the engineers carrying on that at the Williams house. The whole

of the Ninth Corps, excepting 2,000 men in the line between the Strong house and the right of the Fifth Corps, are used as working parties, some of which will work to-night and to-morrow on the line from the Gurley house to the Williams house. They cannot be extended farther on the line.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864. (Received 2 a. m. 6th.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

As I telegraphed this evening, I have not 5,000 men at utmost for detail, excluding Mott's division, now on the line, from which I suppose you do not want details to be made. Two thousand of the 5,000 are at work to-night under charge of the engineers; the rest are also at work under division commanders, at my suggestion, as I consider the work essential to the safety of the line under my charge to furnish the detail now called for unless they come from Mott's division. I will order my men to cease work, and will fill the details called for from men who have already worked part of the night. I would like it understood, however, that I will not have the men to connect or finish my line, so that the responsibility [will rest] with the engineer department, who will have charge of that part of my corps available for fatigue.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864.

Brigadier-General MILES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that you can move your division to a suitable camping-ground near the Williams house. You will be required to furnish large working parties from it probably. You will not, however, be called upon for greater details than the strength of your division will warrant, considering that you furnish no pickets. The general suggests that you should move no more wagons than necessary outside the present line of intrenchments.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND CORPS,
September 5, 1864.

1. Lieutenant-Colonel Schoonover, commanding Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers, will at once move his regiment to the fort, taking command of the same.

2. Major Healy will leave the fort with his own regiment (the Eighth New Jersey Volunteers) and take the place of the Eleventh New Jersey

Volunteers in the line, leaving the Sixth Battalion New Jersey Volunteers in the fort, and its connection with the Eighth New Jersey Volunteers unchanged.

3. The commanding officer of Fort Crawford will immediately on receipt of this make a detail of one commissioned officer and forty men, with the proper number of non-commissioned officers, for fatigue duty. They will report with shovels to Captain Scott, engineer officer of division, in front of the fort.

By command of Col. Robert McAllister:

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance transpired in my front during yesterday or last night. Details from this corps numbering 2,400 men were employed on the forts yesterday. A man was received last evening who claimed to belong to U. S. Navy; was captured in the Wissahickon about a year ago. He escaped on 25th ultimo; has just reached our lines. He has been sent up.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 5, 1864. (Sent 8 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general would like to have Hood's report telegraphed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

The following is General Hood's official dispatch to the War Department:

HEADQUARTERS,
September 3, 1864.

On the evening of the 30th of August the enemy made a lodgment across Flint River near Jonesborough. We attacked them there on the evening of the 31st with two corps, but failed to dislodge them. This made it necessary to abandon Atlanta, which was done on the night of the 1st of September. Our loss on the evening of the 31st was small. On the evening of the 1st of September General Hardee's corps, in position at Jonesborough, was assaulted by a superior force of the enemy, and being outflanked, were compelled to withdraw during the night with loss of eight guns. The enemy's prisoners report their loss very severe.

J. B. HOOD.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 5, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding learned to-day, in passing over the rear line, that you would prepare that part of it connecting with your left from the point reached by the Ninth Corps about 1 or 2 o'clock to-day. This is desirable, as the Ninth Corps has the line as far as the Williams house to prepare, and it is considered important to complete the rear line quickly.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864. (Received 9.30 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have made preparations to do what I can for the part of the line you mention in your dispatch. I will endeavor to have the work on it keep pace with my preparations elsewhere.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

I would respectfully recommend the naming of our forts and redoubts so that they can be designated in orders. For the large redoubt on the plank road I would propose Fort Davis, after Col. P. Stearns Davis, who was killed near there while it was building. For the northern bastion fort on the Weldon railroad, Fort Dushane, after Col. N. T. Dushane, who was killed near it on the 21st instant. For the southern bastion fort on the railroad, Fort Prescott, after Col. George L. Prescott, who was killed in battle before Petersburg on the 18th of June.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

The enemy are reported as still occupying the advanced line taken up in front of the Third Division and continuing the construction of their works. The enemy's vedettes advanced in front of the Second Division yesterday, and our scouts were fired upon; this morning they were gone again. Some traces of cavalry were observed on that part of the line.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864—11.40 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The work on the right of the new line is progressing as favorably as the number of tools can warrant, but I am sorry to say there has been a delay in the detail from the Third Divison ordered to work on the Williams house end of the line, the cause of which will be investigated. Pardon me if I trouble you for an answer to my last dispatch. I have telegraphed Major Duane on the same subject without reply.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 5, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. O. B. WILLCOX,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Your dispatch of 11.40 to General Humphreys received. Generals Parke, Humphreys, and Barnard left here about an hour ago for the Williams house, and I think it quite likely will visit your headquarters before they return. Major Duane says he has sent you officers and tools this morning.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 164. } HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Blick's Station, Va., September 5, 1864.

* * * * * * *

3. I. Brigadier-General Potter, commanding Second Division, will take charge of the construction of the right part of the new line running from Gurley's house to the Williams house indicated by the engineer officers.

II. Brigadier-General Hartranft, commanding Third Division, will take charge of the construction of the left part of said line.

III. Every effort will be made by these officers to push the work on this line to a speedy completion.

* * * * * * *

12. The Seventy-ninth New York Volunteers, Capt. H. G. Heffron commanding, having reported at these headquarters in obedience to orders from headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, is hereby assigned to the Third Division, Brigadier-General Hartranft commanding, and will report without delay accordingly.

* * * * * * *

By command of Brigadier-General Willcox:

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on the line of the Second Cavalry Division. During the night small parties of the enemy, dismounted, threatened General Kautz's line in the vicinity of the railroad. I think the enemy toward the river are guerrillas who have in view in their operations small captures.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Divisio.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 5, 1864—11 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

A dispatch from the lieutenant-general commanding armies in the field states that Colonel Spear reports that the enemy made his appearance at several points between Sycamore Church and Cocke's Mill this morning, and directs that a brigade of cavalry be sent there immediately to drive what force the enemy has there completely off. The commanding general directs that you send the force named and for the purpose designated. The additional regiment sent there yesterday should count as part of the brigade.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 5, 1864—6 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on the cavalry lines. General Kautz reports that the dismounted men who have for some days been prowling about his lines are there for the purpose of capturing horses. This learned from a prisoner captured from First North Carolina Cavalry.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Cavalry.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 244. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C.,
In the Field, September 5, 1864.

* * * * * * *

III. Major-General Birney, commanding Tenth Army Corps, will order the Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops to proceed immediately to Fort Powhatan, and relieve the regiment of 100-days' men now on duty at that place. The regiment of 100-days' men on being relieved

will be placed en route for Washington, D. C., for the purpose of being mustered out. Quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Ord:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 5, 1864. (Received 2 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. D. B. BIRNEY,
Tenth Army Corps:

Major-General Ord has left the department on leave. Major-General Gibbon has taken command of his corps, whom I think you rank. What shall I do about signing department orders?

Respectfully,

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864.

Major DAVIS:

I rank Major-General Gibbon and of course take command as senior officer. Any papers requiring immediate action you can send to me. You can transact the ordinary business of the department as was usual. As General Butler returns so soon it does not require my presence there.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864.

Major DAVIS:

The Twenty-second Colored Troops is ordered to Bermuda Hundred according to order transmitted by you. They will march at daylight. General Birney thinks the transportation had better be sent to Broadway Landing and thus save the men a tedious march. Please answer whether any reason exists why this may not be done.

ED. W. SMITH.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS:

Did Lieutenant-General Grant designate the Twenty-second Regiment U. S. Colored Troops? It is in the trenches and cannot safely be withdrawn until night. Has General Butler returned?

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 5, 1864. (Received 1.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. D. B. BIRNEY,
Tenth Army Corps:

General Grant, through General Ord, did designate the Twenty-second. I should not think it necessary for it to be withdrawn till night, and go down early in the morning. Received telegram from Colonel Shaffer that General Butler would be at Fort Monroe Wednesday morning.

Respectfully,

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that I have just received an order from General Ord to send one of my regiments to Fort Powhatan. Taking my regiments will leave me without force for fatigue purposes.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

As the absence of General Ord places [me] in command of department, I will try and arrange the matter to avoid sending another regiment from my thin line.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 5, 1864—9.45 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

I am directed by the commanding general to inquire whether you succeeded in making any arrangement obviating the necessity of detaching one of your regiments to Fort Powhatan.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

The lieutenant-general left it to my discretion, and I have sent one from the Eighteenth Corps instead.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864—4 p. m.

Major DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

With the news of Early's advance, my thin lines, and the extended works I am constructing, it would be inexpedient to take any more troops from here, so that if Lieutenant-General Grant did not specially designate a regiment from this corps, you will order Major-General Gibbon to send a regiment to Fort Powhatan temporarily. Otherwise I will have to take fatigue details from line.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 5, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: A report has been received that the enemy is massing in General Terry's front; under the circumstances the major-general commanding does not deem it advisable to withdraw the Twenty-second Colored Regiment from the line to-night, but directs that you order a regiment of General Gibbon's command to be sent to Fort Powhatan temporarily. The Twenty-second Regiment will be sent to relieve it as soon as it can safely be withdrawn.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 5, 1864. (Received 7.20 p. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

My corps officer of the day and two brigade commanders report the enemy massing in a ravine before my left center. Indications during the day have been of an increased force in my front.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 5, 1864. (Sent 8 p. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

The major-general commanding desires to know whether your second line is in condition to be occupied, and at what time you propose to occupy it. He also wishes to know whether you have any reserves, and where they are stationed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
September 5, 1864. (Received 8.20 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

I will complete to-night the change from first to the second line on my left, holding the first line with pickets or skirmishers. Each division has one-third in reserve, relieving the trenches with them. The reserves are in rear of each division. I have eighteen light guns in reserve ready to move to any point. I can see no reason, on investigation of the reports, to apprehend an attack to-night.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 117. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., September 5, 1864.

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6. The Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops will proceed at daylight to-morrow to Bermuda Landing, thence to Fort Powhatan, and relieve the regiment of 100-days' men now on duty at that place. The regiment of 100-days' men on being relieved will be placed en route for Washington, D. C., for the purpose of being mustered out. Quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIG., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 5, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the artillery for the last twenty-four hours.

A salute of thirty-six shotted guns was fired at 11 p. m. yesterday from each battery, in which about 500 rounds of ammunition were expended. The enemy replied briskly from all his batteries along our front. Battery D, First U. S. Artillery, was moved from its position on the advanced line to a new unfinished work on the second line, a little to the left and rear of its old position.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Asst. Insp. Gen. and Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, September 5, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have no occurrence of importance to report except the withdrawal of my troops from the outer line to the main line of intrenchments. This was safely effected last night after 12 o'clock. I still hold

the outer line as a picket-line with one man to ten yards. On my left I continue to keep a regiment in the outer line for the protection of a battery of four guns still in position there and for the purpose of connecting with the right of the Second Corps which maintains its old position. Two casualties occurred yesterday. A considerable number of Special Orders, No. 82, headquarters Armies of the United States, were gotten into the hands of the enemy. In some cases they were exchanged for a similar order from the rebel authorities.

I respectfully suggest that an engineer officer should immediately indicate to me what repairs and improvements in the line now occupied are deemed desirable, in order that I may commence work upon it at once.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 5, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

Captain Gillespie, U. S. Corps of Engineers, will call upon General Terry in relation to the matters referred to.

By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 5, 1864.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of occurrences pertaining to my command during the past twenty-four hours: No change has been made in the dispositions of the reserve camps. The men in the front line, except fifty, were withdrawn about 400 yards to the rear of their position, connecting on the right with the Second Brigade and on the left with the Third. Heavy firing was kept up for near an hour by the batteries in my front last night. The enemy also kept up a heavy fire. My men were successful in getting a great many copies of Special Orders, No. 82, headquarters U. S. Army, into the enemy's line. They also received one similar in character from the enemy. I forward it with this report. One man in Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers wounded yesterday. No casualties reported last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS B. POND,
Colonel Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, Comdg. First Brigade.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 5, 1864.

Capt. A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that all is quiet in my front. No offensive demonstrations have been made by the enemy in the last

twenty-four hours. The report of an attack last night was a misunderstanding. A brisk cannonading occurred yesterday evening. The outer line of trenches in my front is now occupied by two officers and fifty men, with a line of communication established between them and the main line of troops. The Requa guns are in position and under command of Capt. A. W. Wheeler, Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers, one of them on the right of Lieutenant Wildey's battery, the other on the right of Captain Follett's battery. The reserves were under arms when an attack was rumored, otherwise they remain unchanged. No casualties have been reported.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS B. POND,
Colonel Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, Comdg. First Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 5, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that there have been no particular changes on my line during the past twenty-four hours. The troops are engaged in perfecting the works previously commenced and reported. An officer and two sergeants of the Forty-eighth New York Volunteers were captured on the picket-line about 7.30 last night. I at once strengthened my front line to the extent of about 350 men, in order to be prepared for any movement the enemy might make, based on information gained from the parties captured.

Respectfully, yours,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, September 5, 1864.

Col. N. M. CURTIS,
Commanding First Brigade:

Information has been received at these headquarters that an attack is anticipated on General Terry's front. The brigadier-general directs that you hold your reserves in readiness to move at a moment's notice, and if an attack is heard on that part of the line the troops of this command will be got under arms at once.

Respectfully, yours,

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 5, 1864.

Capt. P. A. DAVIS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Division, Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that during the past night satisfactory progress has been made in the construction of additional lookouts and in strengthening the abatis on my front. The most care-

ful attention has been paid to the police of trenches and grounds, which are now in excellent condition. The capture of Lieutenant Fletcher, Sergeant Cropsey, and Corporal Smith, all of the Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, while engaged in posting the vedettes, has already been reported, as also the reception of a deserter from the enemy.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. BARTON,
Colonel Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, Comdg. Brigade.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 5, 1864. (Received 2.20 p. m.)

Major-General GIBBON,
Eighteenth Army Corps:

I have received a telegram from Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney that in the absence of General Ord he takes command of the department as senior officer.

Respectfully,

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 5, 1864. (Received 9 p. m.)

Major-General GIBBON,
Eighteenth Army Corps:

Major-General Birney, commanding department, directs that you send a regiment from your corps to relieve the 100-days' regiment at Fort Powhatan, temporarily. Lieut. Col. J. B. Howard, quartermaster, has transportation ready for the Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops, which was to go, but General Birney decides to send one of yours.

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 5, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: The reports from the pickets report everything quiet along the entire line. The commissary-sergeant of the First North Carolina cavalry got hit and surrendered himself on the right of my line this morning. From him I learn that the parties who have been molesting my line are parties of dismounted cavalry seeking to remount themselves to save being transferred into the infantry. His regiment, about 500 strong, he reports as on picket, their left extending to the plank road and the reserves near the railroad near Reams' Station. He says the regiment has been on picket now for two days. In obedience to the general's orders I have directed Colonel Lewis, of the Third New York, to proceed with his regiment to Sycamore Church to reconnoiter

the front of the line in that vicinity, and to endeavor to capture or drive off such parties of the enemy as he may find, and to require the assistance of the First District of Columbia, if necessary, to assist him.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 5, 1864.

Major WETHERILL, *Commanding Brigade:*

MAJOR: The general commanding directs me to inform you that Colonel Lewis, commanding Third New York Cavalry, has been ordered to drive or capture whatever force of rebels he may find between Sycanore Church and Cocke's Mill. He has been authorized to call on Major Baker for re-enforcements (whom you will please notify), but not taking any of his men from their present position on the picket-line. He also desires me to inform you that the commissary-sergeant of North Carolina regiment captured this morning reports that the men who attack our pickets are dismounted cavalrymen seeking to obtain horses to remount themselves so as to avoid doing infantry duty. Such men, if captured, are not to be sent in as prisoners.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. J. ASCH,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE,
Olive Branch Church, Va., September 5, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Maj. J. S. BAKER,
Commanding First District of Columbia Cavalry:

MAJOR: I learn from the commanding general that Colonel Lewis' command, Third New York Cavalry, has been ordered to drive or capture whatever force of rebels he may find between Sycamore Church and Cocke's Mill. He has been authorized to call upon you for re-enforcements, which you will furnish if required, but not take any of your men from their present position on the picket-line. I learn from headquarters that a commissary sergeant of a North Carolina regiment reports that the men who attack our pickets are dismounted cavalry seeking to obtain horses to remount themselves so as to avoid doing infantry duty. Such men, if captured, are not to be sent in as prisoners.

Very respectfully, yours,

SAM'L WETHERILL,
Major, Commanding Brigade.

(Same to Maj. Franklin A. Stratton, commanding Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, at 4.35 p. m.)

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, September 6, 1864.

Major-General ORD, *Baltimore:*

You have permission to visit Washington for the purpose specified in your telegram of this date.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, *September 6, 1864—9.30 p. m.*

Major-General SHERIDAN,
Near Berryville:

From reports of deserters coming in at different times, and on different parts of our lines, we learn that Kershaw's division arrived in Petersburg last night. I think there is no doubt but some troops have arrived from the Valley.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 6, 1864. (Sent 8.40 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies in the Field:

Colonel Lewis, Third New York Cavalry, reports that he found today but one small party of the enemy, five in number, in the region about Sycamore Church and Cocke's Mill.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 6, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters, one from Finegan and the other from Harris, report no recent changes in Mahone's division. One of them states that he heard rumors in Petersburg yesterday evening that two divisions of Longstreet's corps had arrived at Petersburg. He states that he also heard that Kershaw's division was one of them, and he supposes Field's to be the other. Another deserter from Davis' brigade, who just arrived, reports that he heard last evening that Longstreet's corps was all here; that the division which was in the Valley had returned. They moved from Petersburg last evening and took up position on the right of their lines.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 6, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of Lieutenant-General Grant.

The same information has been received from several other deserters, and appears to be confirmed by the fact reported by Major-General Birney that several brigades of the enemy were relieved by others from the trenches in his front last night.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 6, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: A deserter from Thirty-eighth North Carolina, Scales' brigade, who left his picket-post this a. m., reports no change in the enemy's position in that vicinity. He says there are 700 men in Scales' brigade. There are 200 men in his regiment. It is considered to be a large regiment, and is by far the largest regiment in the brigade. He knows nothing of Longstreet or Early, nor does he know of any recent movement whatever.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 6, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have seen the escaped sailor the second time. He states that he followed the Danville road out to where it crosses the Appomattox (after leaving Belle Island), crossed the river at that point, and came down on the south bank until within twenty-four miles of Petersburg, when he took a southerly course and passed between Petersburg and Dinwiddie Court-House. He says he crossed the Vaughan road and the plank road, and on the north bank of the first stream he came to (on referring to the map says it was the Rowanty), quite near the Weldon railroad, he saw a large camp of troops; thinks they were infantry, as he saw no horses about. Three or four miles north of that point he also saw a camp, which a negro told him was General Butler's command. It was on Sunday last that he saw these troops. The enemy have had considerable dismounted cavalry in that vicinity, and he may have seen their camps. The informant seems much brighter this morning, and gives a clearer statement than he did yesterday; still he is much confused in regard to the road he came, as he traveled most of the way in the night, and in finding his way out was obliged to retrace his steps on the same road several times.

Respectfully,

J. McENTEE,
Captain.

CITY POINT, *September 6, 1864.*
(Received 11.40 a. m.)

Lieutenant MANNING:

We have reason to believe that no one has been permitted to leave Richmond since Friday last. Citizens living toward the Chickahominy think that preparations are being made to evacuate Richmond. They judge so from the extreme precaution taken to prevent communication from the city to the adjoining counties of the Peninsula. The true reason probably is to conceal the passage of troops. Deserters at headquarters Army of the Potomac this morning report the return of Kershaw's division. They are not from that division, however.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

(Same to Captain McEntee.)

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 6, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

The enemy extended rear line of works northwest from station during the night. Lines unchanged.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 6, 1864—6.15 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

The condition of the atmosphere has prevented a view of the enemy's lines since 10 a. m. No movements observed before that time.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 6, 1864.

CORPS COMMANDERS:

The following memorandum, indicating the disposition that will be made of the troops in the event of a general attack upon the rear, is sent for your information and guidance by direction of the major-general commanding. The disposition will be modified according to circumstances:

1. Major-General Warren, commanding Fifth Corps, will be charged with the line from the Weldon railroad through the Gurley house to a point half way to the Williams house. He would keep a reserve on his right, besides holding the inclosed works of his present position.

2. Brigadier-General Willcox, commanding Ninth Corps, will be charged with the line from the point midway between the Gurley house and the Williams house to and including the works on the plank road. He will place his best troops at the Williams house, plank road, and at the small redoubt between Williams' and Gurley's. He will hold the line fronting toward Petersburg in the manner heretofore indicated.

3. Major-General Hancock, commanding Second Corps, will hold the rear line from the left of the plank road to the termination of the line on the Blackwater. The front line of the corps will be held in the manner prescribed in previous orders.

4. Major-General Birney, commanding Tenth Corps, will be prepared to support the rear line with his reserved troops.

5. Corps commanders will at once make themselves familiar with the parts of the line apportioned to their corps.

6. Brigadier-General Gregg, commanding cavalry, will be prepared to meet the movements of the enemy's cavalry either in occupying part of rifle-pits with his men dismounted or in covering between the Blackwater and James.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to General Gregg.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 6, 1864—2.20 p. m.

CORPS COMMANDERS:

The major-general commanding requests that corps commanders will inform him of the number of batteries they will require in addition to those they have available for the occupation of the rear line in the manner indicated in the circular memorandum of to-day.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 6, 1864—2 a. m. (Sent 6 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK, *Commanding Second Corps:*

I meant to say in my dispatch of 10.15 p. m. [5th], that probably it would be best after furnishing the party for the abatis to divide the remainder available for fatigue duty between the work about the Williams house and the work beyond it, filling less than half the engineer requisition for party.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

My whole command has been on fatigue during the night excepting Mott's division. The line from the Williams house to the left is pretty well under way and is still being worked on.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

Two deserters from Wilcox's old brigade have just come in. They report nothing new. Neither of them has seen or heard of Early's command, but understand that Longstreet's troops, which were on the other side of the James, have been brought here. They are both ignorant men. No unusual activity was noticed by them in their own division.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 6, 1864—12.20 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Commanding Second Corps:*

Deserters from Hoke's division corroborate the information sent by you last night and this morning respecting the movement of troops to our left yesterday and last night. They state that Early's troops and others moved to our left yesterday and last night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

General Mott has about 2,500 available men under the arrangement of 2,000 men per mile. Am I to consider them as part of the force for my rear line?

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 6, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The 2,500 available men of Mott would form part of the force for your line in the event of an attack such as supposed. Their transfer would be made only when the whole character of the attack was developed into such as supposed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 6, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

A report from the chief of artillery of the Second Corps to General Hunt states that the main line from the large redan, sometimes called Fort Hell, along the little redan to Ames' battery, is occupied only with a picket-line. The main line turns off to the right a little beyond Ames' battery and connects with the redoubt where the 10-inch mortar battery formerly was. Near Ames' battery the double line begins, the front line running along Thomas' and Rhodes' batteries, which are now to be withdrawn. But on the left of Ames' battery, as far as and including the big redan or Fort Hell, there is no double line, the front line being the main one. In rear of Fort Hell General Warren turned a covered way into a place of arms for reserves, but it is not part of a continuous line. The report of the chief of artillery of the Second Corps makes it probable that this covered way has been considered by General Mott as the main second line which it was not intended to be and is not. The front line at the part indicated is the main line and should not be left to a picket-line.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864. (Received 10.35 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Two deserters from Finegan's brigade came in to-night. Neither of them are aware of any movement on other side, nor have they heard any-

thing of Early, except that one says he heard something said about some of Early's troops having gone to Atlanta. Your dispatch about Mott's line has been attended to.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

The following disposition of troops is ordered on the line now being built: The First Division, General Miles commanding, will hold from the left of the plank road (where it will connect with the Ninth Corps) to a point where the line enters the cleared field, in which Colonel Smyth, commanding Second Division, now has his headquarters. The Second Division, Colonel Smyth commanding, will hold from this point to the left of the line, including the fort on the Norfolk road. Colonel Smyth will, however, direct as large a detail as practicable for slashing timber along the line as far as his troops worked to-day, especially at the point where his line leaves the wood near the Widow Smith's house. The stunted pines must be cleared away in this place and as heavy slashing made as practicable. General Miles will recall his details now at work on the right of the plank road and will slash the timber as far as practicable, especially in front of the earth-work located on his line, so as to give the artillery as great a range as possible. If more batteries are available, as is expected, General Miles will be furnished with two or three. Colonel Smyth with one and a section, the remainder of the artillery being in reserve. Information being received that the enemy have passed toward our left in strong force, the commanding general hopes the troops will see the necessity of calling on them for unusual exertion essential to their security. A few hours more of such labor as has been performed during the past twenty-four hours will have put the line in a state of defense to render it easy to repulse any attack of the enemy.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

W. P. WILSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIG., SECOND CORPS,
No. 145. } *September 6, 1864.*

The commanding officers of the Third New Jersey Battery (Captain Woerner), G, First New York Artillery (Captain Ames), and First New Hampshire Battery (Lieutenant Chamberlin) will immediately withdraw their batteries to the open field near the Southall house. This is the same field in which the batteries of Captain Brown and Lieutenant Granger now are, and it is just in rear of the line of works that protect the flank. Battery commanders are cautioned to get into the right field. After arriving the batteries can unhitch and unharness, but will be in readiness to move at very short notice.

By command of Capt. F. M. Edgell:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

Captain WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that I have established my headquarters at the Williams house.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
Smith House, September 6, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Capt. W. P. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in compliance with circular of this p. m. from headquarters Second Corps I have moved my division to the left of the Jerusalem plank road, with my right resting upon that road. The left of the line assigned me by that circular is occupied by a brigade of the Second Division, which is to move out at daylight. From the plank road to the right beyond the Williams house, the line which I left, is now vacant, the Ninth Corps not having moved in. I have room for three batteries on my line. Two have reported to me. When the Second Division moves out in the morning I shall be able, by forming my division in one rank, to fill the line of works assigned to me. Possibly one brigade may be able to form two ranks, but I do not expect it.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 67. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 2D ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

The undersigned assumes command of the division.

T. A. SMYTH,
Colonel First Delaware Veteran Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. DE TROBRIAND,
Commanding First Brigade:

GENERAL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you will proceed as we talked of this a. m. I would suggest that one regiment be put where the Second Division vacated. It will be necessary to put a small regiment, or about 200 men, in the fort for a garrison. The tents should be covered with brush, so that in case of a sudden move it will not be noticed by the enemy so readily.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. H. LOCKWOOD,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual occurred in my front during yesterday or last night. Details numbering 1,600 men were at work yesterday on the defenses on this line.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 6, 1864—12 m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

A deserter from Hoke's division reports that troops from Early passed toward our left yesterday and last night. This information is corroborated by statements from deserters from other divisions. The commanding general desires that you have a vigilant lookout kept up in your direction and that every effort be made to complete the rear line of intrenchment.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have received your communication in relation to holding the rear lines. I will do whatever I can in the event of the enemy coming in that direction. I suppose if I should be heavily attacked all around my present position some one else would have to look out beyond the Gurley house as the enemy could not attack everywhere at once. I think the rear line east of the Gurley house very badly located, requiring the maximum of infantry and giving but little chance for artillery. It may do for a sudden emergency, but as far as I have seen it I think it should be remodeled. The location of these defenses for a continuous line of battle is a simple affair, but to be held by small force points should be most carefully chosen. If there is artillery to spare I would like to have the three batteries I applied for a few days ago to replace those gone out of service. I am willing to try with what I have. On the whole, if Early does not come back, I think an attack on us extremely improbable, and do not think it likely even if he does. General Lee will more probably await our advance on the Danville road, which it is generally believed we will make. My line is made continuous now to the Gurley house.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I wish to withdraw from your files my dispatch that General Griffin and General Ayres should command the two divisions pro-

posed. I am writing a full report on the subject of reorganization to General Meade. The change practically could not yet go into effect from our urgent field duties and the necessity for completing our last month's reports under the old organization.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report the firing to have arisen from a party of rebels—variously estimated by my party at the house, all of whom made their escape, at 200, by others at twenty to thirty—firing a volley, yelling, and then running to the Davis house. My picket commander deployed the reserve, advanced to the house, and found nothing there.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report all quiet on my front during the last twenty-four hours, save a few shots exchanged with the enemy's vedettes in front of Second Division. The pits reported abandoned in yesterday's report were occupied last night by the enemy, supposed to be cavalry vedettes.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 6, 1864—12 m.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general desires to know what progress has been made in the construction of that part of the rear line of defense assigned to your corps, and when it will probably be completed. The reports from deserters from Hoke's and other divisions concur in stating that Early's and other troops passed to our left yesterday and last night. The commanding general desires that every preparation possible be made in your command for transfer to the rear line in the contingency indicated in previous communications, and that strict vigilance be enjoined on the troops.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864—12.20 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I am constructing a small redoubt on the rear line, which, when the slashing is done, will look to the right to the open country in rear of the Gurley house and to the left to the open plain on which the Williams house stands and command an open view to the front (south) to the woods beyond the Smith house. The rifle-pits will be done by night to the swale bounding the plain on the west where the Williams house stands, connecting with Miles' division at the swale which bounds that plain.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Your dispatch of 12 m. received. I telegraphed you at 12.20. The rifle-pits of the rear line will be completed before dark and as much slashing of woods as possible.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 6, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The troops holding your line fronting toward Petersburg should be disposed with a view to holding it with a force of 2,000 per mile, including those in the inclosed works on it, and also with a view of holding it with the troops in the inclosed works only. Those troops above the rate of 2,000 per mile should be held in reserve. If nothing occurs between this and the morning it is probable that some part of your surplus command will be sent to the Williams house, and Ferrero's division moved from the Gurley house toward the Williams house, and a division from General Warren's corps be sent to the Gurley house.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864. (Received 6.40 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

In case Warren relieves Ferrero, by putting Ferrero's division on the line toward Petersburg, I could fill the complement of 2,000 men to the mile very nearly and have both white divisions available; otherwise I shall have to put on parts of both white divisions and divide the organization.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864—9.10 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

From General Hancock's right, across the plank road to the Williams house, there is a gap of some 400 yards, concerning which I have received the following dispatch in answer to my inquiries:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

General O. B. WILLCOX,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

My troops have been worked so I have no parties out to-night, except some hundred men slashing timber along the plank road and to the left. I understood that the line at the Williams house was nearly completed, and proposed to work my men in the morning on that part of the line for which I am specially responsible. I have only about 5,500 men for duty not on the front line in Mott's division, and they have worked so well and so constantly, all of them being on fatigue last night, that I must give them rest. If you are not able to complete the line to the plank road I will give you what assistance I can to-morrow and complete my own line.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

My men are equally worn out with labor night and day, but I can put a brigade on this gap to-morrow morning if that will answer. Please reply to-night so that I can make my arrangements. I have received no reply to my dispatch in regard to the disposition of the colored troops.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 6, 1864—9.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The brigade to-morrow for the vacant part near the plank road will answer very well. No arrangement is yet made respecting the occupation of the Gurley house by a division from Warren. The conclusion upon the subject will be made to-morrow. You cannot move Ferrero until that is decided.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch received.* If you can complete the work on the plank road and the redoubt between that and the Williams house it is all I ask. I will start a brigade to the Williams house from here at daylight with orders to work on redoubt at Williams' house and line connecting redoubts. Can you oblige me by having your chief of artillery or other officer on the ground to indicate the plan of the work you have

* See Willcox to Humphreys, 9.10 p. m., second, *ante*.

laid out. I am aware of your own necessities, but part of my command is working to-night on the line which will be occupied by Warren, otherwise I should not trouble you. Please answer.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

General WILLCOX:

The works you refer to were laid out by the engineers who are at the Williams house. General Miles worked on the line to-day, and I will have one of his staff on the line to show you to-morrow morning. I have only two of my own staff familiar with it, and they will be on the Norfolk road in the morning. I will see early to-morrow morning what troops I will have available for work not absolutely necessary on my line. I think you will find most of the work done, as I have had two brigades there since last evening.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to say to you that you will please hold your reserve brigade in readiness to move to the Williams house at an early hour in the morning, to assist in the completion of the works at that point. Humphrey's brigade will move at daylight to that point. Yours may be necessary in addition. Your brigade will make the necessary arrangements for tools. Please send a staff officer to confer with Colonel Humphrey, who will be on the ground about 5.30.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. V. RICHARDS,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General HARTRANFT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you send Humphrey's brigade at daylight to-morrow to complete the redoubts and line between the Williams house and plank road. Work from the Williams house until you connect with working parties of the Second Corps. General Hancock has promised to render all the aid he can toward the completion of these works in the morning. Tools can be had upon application to staff officers at these headquarters; also wagons.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 6, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that no change has been observed in front of the cavalry line.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Toward dusk last evening the enemy relieved several brigades from trenches, which gave rise to the report of their massing. Between 8 and 9 o'clock in the evening the enemy cheered loudly, and opened vigorously from their artillery. I now occupy the second line from right of Second Corps to Redoubt No. 3, near the Hare house. Pickets in advance of and in the former line hold it. I am working on the new line to complete it; it is shorter and better.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded for the information of Lieutenant-General Grant.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I would not need any additional artillery. I have eighteen guns in reserve on my line that would be sufficient artillery for my small reserve as a support.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A deserter from Hoke's division, on my right, reports that last night a division of General Early's marched through Petersburg to the Weldon railroad. He says the cheering was for their arrival. Another deserter says that troops all day yesterday from Richmond defenses were moving toward our left; that General Lee has moved his headquarters there near Weldon railroad. They agree that the arrived

determination is to make a determined effort to repossess that road. I send you this for what it is worth. It agrees with my observations as to movements of troops during the night.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded for the information of Lieutenant-General Grant.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Another deserter says that during yesterday and last night regiments were picked from Hoke's division and marched to the left of our line near Weldon railroad. He thought that four regiments were taken. This was not substantiated by other deserters, but he seemed a bright fellow and confident of fact.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major general commanding directs that Redoubt No. 3 be garrisoned without delay, a good colonel placed in command, and the slashing in its front completed. The colonel can use his regiment in completing the work. Captain Briscoe, aide-de-camp, will indicate to him the line that is to be corrected if Captain Gillespie is not present.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 6, 1864—10.40 p. m.

Colonel Pond, Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, commanding First Brigade, will immediately extend his line to a point 100 yards to the right of Follett's battery, relieving the troops of the Second Brigade on the left of that point, and will also extend his left 100 yards to the left of the fourteen-gun battery—not counting in the gorge of that work—and relieving the troops of the Third Brigade for 100 yards on the right of their line.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 6, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that during the past twenty-four hours there have been no changes in the position of the troops of my command or, as far as can be seen, in those of the enemy. Owing to the unfavorable weather last night but little work was done on my front except in drawing and in filling and placing sand-bags in position for loop-holes. Four hundred men were at work on a new work in progress on my right.

Respectfully, yours,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., September 6, 1864.

Col. THOMAS J. C. AMORY,
Commanding Sub-District of Beaufort:

COLONEL: Some information, which I think it improper to neglect, has come to the effect that an attempt is to be made by the rebels to blow up the railroad and capture a train, also to place some torpedoes at Cedar Point to blow up some of the vessels. You must keep a good lookout for the railroad and the approaches to it from both sides as far as Havelock, and until further orders a guard of at least one company will accompany each train. The hours for running the trains will probably be changed, the down trains leaving in the morning. These guards will in that event be furnished from here. Lieutenant Ward, with about 100 men, is with the little steamer Arrow in Slocomb's Creek watching the river in that vicinity. He has a Wiard gun with him on the steamer. You must make the best use you can of Graham's cavalry, and, with vigilance, I think we can perhaps capture any party that may come down with evil intent.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

No. 111 REMSEN STREET, BROOKLYN, N. Y.,
September 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, U. S. Army:

GENERAL: I have the honor to transmit herewith a project for closing Cape Fear River. It involves a co-operation between land and naval forces. I have to request that it be placed before the Secretary of War for his perusal and then sent to the General-in-Chief.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 10, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to Lieutenant-General Grant.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Inclosure.]

NEW YORK, *September 6, 1864.*

Project for effectually closing the port of Wilmington, N. C., to blockade-runners.

There are two ship channels into Cape Fear River, viz, the southern entrance between Oak and Smith's Islands, and New Inlet Channel between Zeeks' Island and Federal Point. The southern entrance is defended by Fort Caswell and a powerful inclosed battery at A on Oak Island and by a strong work at Bald Head and another work nearly completed at C on Smith's Island. At Fort Caswell the armament has been placed on the glacis, which has been raised to protect the masonry of the work. The work at A is about one mile from Fort Caswell and is placed on the prolongation of the axis of the channel. One channel runs very near A, as well as to Fort Caswell; another passes near Bald Head Point, connecting with the first abreast of Fort Caswell. Here there is a line of obstructions under the guns of the fort. Oak Island is separated from the mainland by a marsh which affords a good defense. The island is not occupied by the enemy, so far as we know, west of A. It is heavily covered with live oak and undergrowth and the seashore is skirted with sand ridges for the entire length of the island west of A. Lockwood's Folly Inlet, at the west end, formerly had five to six feet of water in the channel at low tide. There have been no recent examinations of it reported. At B the works are quite strong offensively and comprise batteries for channel defense looking toward Fort Caswell and others toward the sea, all overlooked by works on Bald Head, which have a command of about forty feet. At C the works were not completed, although in progress one month ago. Guns are probably in position there now.

No batteries have ever been seen between Bald Head and Cape Fear except field pieces, which are sometimes run out upon the beach to cover the ingress of blockade-runners. From Bald Head Point east about one mile this beach is obstructed by trees. The remaining three miles to Cape Fear is hard, smooth, and open, and in still weather or even during the prevalence of easterly, northeasterly, northerly, and westerly winds, is well sheltered and affords a good and safe place to disembark troops. The south end of Smith's Island for about one mile in width along the shore is covered with dense wood and undergrowth. The balance of the island to the north as far as Zeeks' Island is merely a narrow strip of sand fronting on the ocean and separated from the channel of Cape Fear River by impracticable [*sic*] and marshes. Troops could be disembarked on the east or sea front of Smith's Island during the prevalence of southwesterly or westerly winds. At low water the two shallow inlets between Zeeks' and Smith's Islands are dry, or so nearly so that the two islands are practically one.

The New Inlet entrance is defended by several batteries on Federal Point and by a small work on Zeeks' Island. The Federal Point works comprise Fort Fisher, which is a strong inclosed work with five or six

guns in Haxo casemates; an inclosed work at D, with two guns in Haxo casemates; the Mound Battery, sixty feet high, with three or four guns, also inclosed, and four other batteries between Fisher and the Mound, mounting from three to five guns each. These four batteries, at latest reports, were not inclosed; they are probably so located as to be protected by Fisher, the Mound, and the battery at D. Field guns are sometimes brought out upon the beach north of Fort Fisher to protect blockade-runners. North of Fort Fisher the seashore is quite bold, and troops can be disembarked there in still weather without great difficulty, and under cover of men-of-war, within 150 or 200 yards from the shore. There are known to be obstructions in Cape Fear River at one point above Fort Caswell, protected by a battery on the west bank. This bank, indeed, favors the establishment of batteries for the defense of the channel.

The foregoing is simply an outline of the most important items of information with regard to the water-defenses of Wilmington down to a period quite recent. Numerous interesting details, of greater or less importance, have been omitted. It is believed by naval officers, recently from the Wilmington blockade, that the depth of water in the New Inlet Channel is amply sufficient for the passage of the monitors now off Charleston.

PROPOSED PLANS OF OPERATIONS.

First plan—to be executed with 6,000 men: Capture Zeeks' Island by a surprise at daybreak, and land simultaneously, or soon after daybreak, a force on Smith's Island to hold its narrow sea-front. At the same time, or, at farthest, before the enemy's gun-boats could be brought down the river against Zeeks' Island, the monitors should run by the Federal Point batteries, while the rest of the fleet engaged them. With Zeeks' Island and the narrow part of Smith's Island securely in our possession, and a monitor force in the river, the blockade would be perfect. During the daytime the monitors should lie near Zeeks' Island, as far off as possible from the west bank of Cape Fear River and the Federal Point batteries—say about 3,000 yards distant from each. At night they could take up such position in the channel as could effectually close it. Should the attempt to capture Zeeks' Island by surprise fail, it still might be taken by siege, provided the monitors got in. But should they fail to enter, Zeeks' Island might not be tenable against the gun-boats of the enemy, unopposed by any naval force. A knowledge, which we do not now possess, of the interior arrangement of the work there could alone settle this point. As not more than 1,200 or 1,500 men would be necessary to test the practicability of carrying Zeeks' Island by surprise, this latter should be attempted simultaneously with the second plan, leaving a choice between the two to be made at the proper time, if it should be found necessary to abandon either. Indeed, the first plan should be tried if only as a feint in favor of the second. The difficulty of supplying the troops upon an open beach is a matter of detail that has been duly considered.

Second plan—to be executed with 12,000 men; part of these to be used against Zeeks' and Smith's Islands in accordance with the first plan: Land the troops on the open beach above Fort Fisher, and at once establish a strongly intrenched line across the peninsula to Cape Fear River. This line would be about three-quarters of a mile long, running through a dense wood. While the troops are landing, the iron-clads should run

by the batteries defending New Inlet, while the rest of the fleet engages them. The iron-clads, after entering, should take up a position in Cape Fear River abreast the land forces. Until the Federal Point batteries should be reduced, the troops would receive their supplies on the open beach as in the first plan.

The second plan is more complete in its results than the first. It would yield good results even should the iron-clads fail to get in or meet with disaster subsequently, for with batteries built well out toward the channel in shallow water, and the use of powerful calcium lights, and such channel obstructions as could be constructed at night, the river could be closed quite effectually, it is believed, without the continual presence of gun-boats on the inside.

The execution of either plan calls for the combined skill and experience of the engineer and artillerist. Important professional details are involved in the operation, for which the officer to be charged with the work should have time to prepare. Secrecy being important, if not essential, the naval forces should rendezvous at some distance from the scene of proposed operations. Charleston harbor is a suitable point, inasmuch as the iron-clads are there, and it would look like an attack in that quarter.

The above are simply the most salient features of a project or projects for closing Wilmington to blockade-runners. I am free to say that I have given the subject a great deal of thought. I firmly believe the plans practicable and am willing to risk my reputation in attempting their execution.*

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 7, 1864.

General PARKE:

There seems to be a break between the new line taken by General Birney and the line occupied by the Second Corps. The break is at the Norfolk road. I wish you would send your chief of staff or chief engineer to correct and establish the line that must be held.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from Finegan's and two from Harris' brigades who left the enemy's lines last night just arrived here, and report no change in the position of Mahone's division. Harris' brigade numbers about 500 men, and Finegan's (with Perry's) about 800 men for duty. They know nothing of any part of Longstreet's corps, and have neither seen nor heard of any recent movements.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. MCENTEE,
Captain, &c.

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* A sketch accompanying this report will appear in the Atlas.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
City Point, September 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Our agent succeeded in getting through from Richmond last night, bringing three refugees with him. Unusual precautions have been taken within a few days, for some reason not explained, in preventing the passage of persons within and without the lines, and our agent was obliged to take two nights to make the trip, having left Richmond on Monday evening. If Kershaw's division or any other troops from Early have arrived at Petersburg it is not known that they have passed through Richmond. One of the men brought through was an agent for an express company, and was accustomed to go every day to the Petersburg depot. His own attention not being directed to the fact, he did not make particular inquiries, but he heard nothing indicating that any troops have within the last week or ten days, or at any time lately, been sent from Richmond by the Petersburg road. There are very conflicting rumors in Richmond with regard to Early, and people think that the Government is sending out reports in order to conceal his real movements. The rumor heretofore reported that troops had been sent to re-enforce Hood is still current in Richmond, although it is known or believed that none have gone from General Lee's army. Our agent was entirely unable to learn, after making inquiry from different sources, what Early's present position was, or whether any portion of his troops had been sent to Hood; but, as before stated, he was unable to learn that any troops have passed through Richmond lately. If they have done so it must have been at night, and with such secrecy as to avoid all comment upon it whatever. Owing to the fact that the fall of Atlanta was not made public, and to the reticence with regard to Early, the public mind in Richmond is in a very unquiet state.

It was the common talk last Monday morning about the streets that General Lee had telegraphed for 12,000 men to be sent down to him, and the different battalions in the city expected to be ordered out. What is certain about it is that on Monday morning the Fire Brigade, which is composed of detailed men, was ordered out and directed to pick up all men whom they might find in and about the city. These were again subjected to an examination of their papers, and were hurried off to Petersburg. The physical examination is so slight that it was reported one blind man had been forwarded with the others. The better opinion seems to be that the recent movements on the north side of the James and the occupation of various points by our troops are again intended to mislead the enemy, and that General Grant is, in fact, intending to stretch out his lines and seize the South Side Railroad, and General Lee is understood to be making every effort to extend his lines so as to cover it. As a fact bearing upon this, our informant says that he was told by Captain Daniel, who is a brother of one of the editors of the Richmond Examiner, and a conductor on the Petersburg railroad, that last Monday morning he brought a train loaded with troops as far as Chester Station, where they were stopped, it being uncertain whether they would go over to the north side of the James or return.

Provisions are still advancing. No sugar or coffee has been issued to the troops since our occupation of the Weldon railroad, before which it was occasionally done. The fall of Atlanta had not been known long enough with certainty for its effects to be seen to any marked extent.

Before our agent left, however, on Monday, when it was known, gold advanced from 500 to 600 per cent. It had been selling before at 2100, and was sold on Monday at 2600 and 2700.

In regard to some information lately asked for by Lieutenant-Colonel Comstock, I get the following answers: The enemy are abundantly supplied with spherical case. There is a great scarcity of Parrott shell of all sizes, particularly for the 20-pounders. The caps now made are very bad, the sheet copper belonging to the Government being entirely consumed, and the Government has agents picking up copper wherever it may be found. There is also a great dearth of soft iron, so much so that it is said that no more is to be had for the manufacture of heavy ammunition. The enemy are now understood to have four Whitworth guns with General Lee's army, and fixed ammunition for them is in great demand.

I inclose a Richmond paper of the 5th, whose articles show in what a bitter spirit the fall of Atlanta is received. It is the only one brought.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

PLANK ROAD STATION,
September 7, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major FISHER:

All quiet. No change of camps or lines.

H. W. FULTON.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: There has been nothing of interest reported from my stations to-day. The enemy are at work upon a ditch in front and to the right of the work blown up.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 7, 1864. (Received 8.15 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

Two deserters from Finegan's brigade this morning. They do not know of anything unusual going on. Neither of them have seen or heard of any movement of troops to their right and have heard nothing about Early.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 7, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

Since last report the line from Williams' house to Norfolk road has been about completed. The troops are now engaged in finishing and particularly in slashing. The right of my two divisions on that line now rests on the plank road.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 7, 1864. (Sent 11 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that as soon as the part of the rear line upon which working parties of the Second Corps have been engaged admits of it, one of the divisions will be returned to the vicinity of the Jones house.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 7, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

An examination of the Blackwater Swamp yesterday shows it to be impassable below where the left of the rear line of intrenchments rests, except at a point about one-third of a mile below the left of the rifle-pits, where it is passable for horsemen, and may be made passable for artillery. The point is indicated on the maps by a road which is not drawn through the swamp. The rifle-pit should be extended to include this point. The dam at Sturdivant's Mill should be rebuilt as soon as a working party can be sent there; it will make the low ground of second swamp impassable.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 7, 1864—10.45 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I am instructed to ask whether in your judgment it would not be well to move a brigade at daylight to the Deserted House to re-enforce Mott if necessary and another brigade to the vicinity of the Jones house to re-enforce on the plank road if required, the brigades to come from the two divisions working on the rear line.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 7, 1864.

Capt. W. P. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: In reply to communication* of Major-General Humphreys, chief of staff, received at 1.15 a. m., I have the honor to report that my picket-line is in front of the main line; that the front line from Ames' battery to the Jerusalem plank road is considered the main and only line. The troops withdrawn from there were placed in reserve for the purpose of being moved anywhere that may be necessary. If the chief of artillery of the Second Corps had reported to my headquarters in accordance with the instructions of major-general commanding the corps, the placing of the troops would have been explained to him and would have obviated his report to the chief of artillery of the Army of the Potomac.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 7, 1864.

Capt. W. P. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report for the information of the major-general commanding that the enemy during the night greatly strengthened his picket-line in my front from the right of the Jerusalem plank road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 7, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. DE TROBRIAND,
Commanding First Brigade:

GENERAL: The brigadier-general commanding directs the following disposition of your troops: Colonel McAllister will relieve all of your command on the left of the Jerusalem plank road. You will withdraw from the front line, commencing on the right where the Fourth Maine Artillery is stationed, all except a support for your picket-line. You will put a garrison in the small fort near the Norfolk railroad, and take up the second as your line, with the right resting on the railroad. You will proceed immediately to level all of the old works between your main line and the line which you have occupied in front, making banquettes and traverses for the availability and the protection of the troops.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. LOCKWOOD,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Humphreys to Hancock, September 6, 7.45 p. m., p. 721.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 7, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. R. PIERCE,
Commanding Second Brigade:

GENERAL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you extend your right so as to occupy the ground that may be vacated by the movements that Colonel McAllister has been ordered to make.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAMES H. LOCKWOOD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 7, 1864.

Col. ROBERT MCALLISTER,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs the following disposition of your command: You will occupy the work near the head and left of the plank road, relieving all of the troops that General De Trobriand may have there. General Pierce is directed to relieve your left, which may be vacated to accomplish the above. You will continue the slashing in your front, and particularly in the immediate front of the fort, so that the guns will have a good range and prevent the enemy from massing troops or sending their sharpshooters to annoy us.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAMES H. LOCKWOOD,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND CORPS,
September 7, 1864.

In compliance with the above order the following disposition is made of the troops of this brigade:

I. The commanding officer of the Eleventh Massachusetts Volunteers will at once move his command into the fort. The Eighth New Jersey Volunteers will move to their right and occupy the place vacated by the Eleventh Massachusetts Volunteers, and the One hundred and twentieth New York Volunteers will close up to the left of the Eighth New Jersey Volunteers, resting with their left on the gap.

II. Colonel Schoonover, commanding Fort Crawford, will send the Seventh New Jersey Volunteers, including the Fifth Battalion New Jersey, to consist of not less than 300 men, to the right to occupy the works near the head and left of the plank road, relieving General De Trobriand's troops and our own reserve, these 300 men to be relieved every forty-eight hours from the forts. A prompt and immediate compliance with this order is required.

By command of Col. R. McAllister:
J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 7, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in my front yesterday and during the night. Private Sandford, Company H, Twelfth U. S.

Infantry, deserted while on picket, and was afterward seen in conversation with a mounted rebel officer. The brigades of Crawford's division and details from the other divisions, numbering together about 2,700 men, were at work yesterday on the defenses.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 7, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report all quiet on my line during the last twenty-four hours. Scouts report the enemy's vedettes have fallen back. My troops occupy this morning the new line in the vicinity of the Williams house.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Two deserters that left the rebel lines last night say that Hoke was lying in camp or in the trenches day before yesterday; that the rebel troops are stretched out in a single line watching us, and there are no reserves between Petersburg and here except two brigades.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 7, 1864.

Brigadier-General POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires you to start a brigade of your troops toward the Williams house to halt until further directions at the small redoubt this side the "swale."

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Blick's Station, Va., September 7, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division, Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires you to place one brigade of your troops in position, with its right resting at and including the redoubt half way between the Gurley house and the Williams house, with left extending to and including the first redoubt on the plain upon

which the Williams house is situated. He directs, also, that you construct a strong abatis in front of the line thus to be occupied by you, at a distance of seventy yards from the works.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 7, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER, FIRST BRIGADE:

SIR: You will move your brigade at 7 o'clock to-morrow morning to a position with its right resting at and including the redoubt half way between the Williams house, with left extending to and including the first redoubt on the plain on which the Williams house is situated. You will proportion your men to the length of the line, leaving room on the left for the regiment that is to report to Colonel Humphrey to-morrow morning, which will report as ordered. You will construct a strong abatis in front of the line thus to be occupied by you at a distance of seventy yards from the works. You will draw in your pickets when you move.

By order of Brigadier-General Ferrero:

GEO. A. HICKS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 7, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet during the night. A scouting party sent from Lee's Mill to the plank road found nothing of the enemy. An old contraband came to my lines this morning, having come from Sussex yesterday, traveling along the plank road. He saw no troops, save an occasional mounted vedette.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. MCM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 7, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

Please inform General Willcox, commanding Ninth Corps, as well as Generals Hancock and Warren, of everything important that is observed or occurs in the cavalry front. Please direct the cavalry officers on picket to inform the commanding officers of the nearest infantry force in their rear of the appearance of the enemy, so that the delay of receiving the information through you will not occur. This is not intended, however, to dispense with your sending the information also when it reaches you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
September 7, 1864—6 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have the honor to report return to my command, and will do myself the honor to report in person to-morrow.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 106. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C.,
In the Field, September 7, 1864.

I. Capt. Israel R. Sealy, assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby announced as assistant adjutant-general on the staff of the major-general commanding department.

II. Capt. H. R. Clum, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, is hereby announced as chief signal officer of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, vice Capt. L. B. Norton, relieved pursuant to orders from the War Department.

III. First Lieut. John A. Kress, U. S. Ordnance Corps, is hereby announced as chief of ordnance of the army in the field, vice Capt. A. Mordecai, relieved pursuant to orders from the War Department.

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 7, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

Nothing of special interest on my line. General Hunt withdrew three batteries from me. I am working at the second line at all points. Deserter confirms report as to portion of Early's troops returning, and also that the enemy are at work at an inner line of redoubts.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 7, 1864. (Sent 10.40 a. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

The major-general commanding desires to know where the 1,800 men are posted that were withdrawn from the Tenth Corps by General Ord's order.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 7, 1864. (Received 12.50 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The regiments withdrawn from my line are stationed, I think, on James River, at Berkeley house, Wilson's Wharf, and City Point.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 7, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Army Corps:

I have withdrawn my main line to second line. Hold advance line with skirmishers. Will you not order proper connection between your right and my left? I have ordered General Terry, my left division, to co-operate with your division commander on your right in effecting it.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, September 7, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: Yesterday I received orders from the major-general commanding to place without delay a good regiment in Redoubt No. 3. I selected the Sixth Connecticut Regiment, and directed its commanding officer to move its camp into and in rear of the work. On examination I found the work in its present condition incapable of defense. Three of its sides have parapets of seven feet at least above the terre-plein, and there is no banquette; the superior slopes of the parapet are nearly horizontal, so as to render it impossible to fire on an approaching enemy. The fourth side of the work, the gorge, is as yet only the reverse of the old rifle-pits; in second line it is not more than two feet above the terre-plein. No platforms are yet laid for the guns, and only a portion of the embrasures are cut. The artillery officer on duty there reports that at present he can use none of his guns. The commanding officer of the Sixth Connecticut Volunteers has orders to employ his men in completing the work, and the regiment has been relieved from all other duty. The new line to the right of Sanger's battery is well forward; it will be completed, I think, within thirty-six hours; reliefs are working on it day and night. I still have one regiment in the advanced line, its left connecting with the right of the Second Corps. I respectfully suggest that it should be withdrawn to the main line and the connection maintained with the Second Corps by crossing the railroad where my left now rests. No other movement of troops than the one spoken of above has been made during the past twenty-four hours. One deserter came in yesterday. No casualties are reported.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 7, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

Redoubt No. 3 must be completed with the least possible delay. General Terry will employ the regiment mentioned within upon it, withdraw the regiment now in advanced line, and maintain a proper connection with the right of the Second Corps.

By command of Major-General Birney:

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 112. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 7, 1864.

1. The Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lieut. Col. E. Campbell commanding, will immediately garrison the fourteen-gun battery, and, in the event of attack, hold it to the last. The regiment will be exempt from all duty except such as is required for the completion and safety of the work.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 7, 1864.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the position of the reserves of my command remains the same as at my last report, no changes having been made in their disposition during the last twenty-four hours. The first line of battle in my front is manned as before, by two officers and fifty men; the second line of battle to which the force except one-tenth were withdrawn was extended from the right and left last night about 100 yards to the right and a little more to the left, connecting on the right and left with the First and Second Brigades. The enemy have been at work on their batteries. I opened the Requa guns on a fatigue party, which at once caused a suspension of work. A musketry fire was kept up all last night by the enemy. No casualties have been reported.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS B. POND,
Colonel Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, Comdg. First Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 7, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that no changes have occurred on my line within the past twenty-four hours. A detail of 400 men were at work on the new redoubt on my right, which is progressing. Considerable improvement has been made in the drainage of the trenches as the necessity for it has been developed by the late rain.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 7, 1864.

Capt. P. A. DAVIS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Division, Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the working parties on my front have been engaged during the last twenty-four hours in throwing up traverses and in filling sand-bags and placing them in position.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. A. OSBORN,
Colonel Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Vols., Comdg. Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 7, 1864.

Maj. THEO. READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Signal officer at Crow's Nest station reports mortar firing on our Dutch Gap working party, but soon silenced by our guns and mortars. Enemy still at work on Cox's Ferry earth-works. Enemy seen working at Howlett's battery; think they are building traverses, but not certain, as cannot get good view of them.

Very respectfully,

THEO. F. PATTERSON,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

HDQRS. SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE, KAUTZ'S DIVISION,
Near Olive Branch Church, September 7, 1864.

Capt. M. J. ASCH,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I learn that about sunrise this morning several rebel soldiers were seen near Doctor Bryant's house. A few were mounted. I have just returned from a visit along the right of the line. There is a safeguard named Gay, Thirty-ninth Massachusetts Volunteers, at Doctor Bryant's. The officers complain that on other occasions when rebels have been seen about there that he is very uncommunicative and they are suspicious of him. As this safeguard is outside of our picket-line nearly a quarter of a mile, I respectfully submit that he should either be withdrawn or relieved. Our line is so thin that it is impossible to keep out determined and skillful scouts, and I think in places through the woods on the Lawyers' road that a wire could be stretched from tree to tree, running through small iron staples, so that the picket could hear any one striking the wire during the night. There must be old worn-out telegraph wire about which could be used advantageously. I have directed Major Stratton to endeavor to entrap the parties who come near Doctor Bryant's.

Respectfully, yours,

SAM. WETHERILL,
Major Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, Commanding Brigade.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 89. } *City Point, Va., September 8, 1864.*

1. Hereafter rations will not be sold to citizens residing within the lines of the armies operating against Richmond, unless such persons take the oath of allegiance. Gratuitous issues of provisions will not be made to citizens except on certificates that they are destitute and have no means of purchasing, and in such cases issues will be made in accordance with General Orders, No. 64, Adjutant-General's Office, War Department. Citizens who are inimical to the Government or refuse to take the oath of allegiance, will be sent into the enemy's lines. Those citizens who take the oath of allegiance will be sent to the Northern States if they desire to go there.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 8, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The following dispatch from Major-General Hancock, and explanatory note from Captain McEntee are thought worth sending:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 8, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The officer [of the] day of the First Brigade of General Mott's division reports this morning that he has ascertained that the Richmond City Home Guards are picketing in front of a part of Mott's division. The division officer [of the] day says he is endeavoring to ascertain more particulars. It may be that this is for the purpose of preventing desertion.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 8, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The Richmond City Home Guard is a militia organization composed of old men and boys who have heretofore only been called out on urgent occasions. This organization, according to best information I have received, including Richmond and Petersburg, numbers near 3,000 men. A part of that force occupied the trenches during the Reams' Station fight.

Respectfully,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 8, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Five deserters who left the enemy's lines last night have just arrived here. They report no change in the position of Mahone's division, nor have they heard of the arrival of any troops from the Valley. I can get no reliable evidence confirmatory of the rumors that Kershaw's division has as yet returned from the Valley. I think, on the contrary, that everything seems to indicate that they have neither passed through Richmond nor Petersburg. Among all the deserters coming in I have been able to hear from the city nearly every day for the past week, and I find none of them who have seen or heard of Kershaw's division passing, except one man, who states that they went through the town on Sunday last. There is abundant evidence to show that he was mistaken in regard to the command. One of these men to-day reports that on Sunday last he saw Fry's brigade pass through the town, and several days ago a deserter from Lane's brigade reported that he saw Fry's brigade march down to their right flank. Law's brigade is still lying in rear of Mahone's division, and one of these men while conversing with a man in Fifteenth Alabama was told by him yesterday that a part of Longstreet's corps was still with Early, but

that they were expected to be here soon. Perry's brigade, attached to Finegan's, numbers about 250 men for duty. One of the deserters examined this morning is a son of Lieutenant-Colonel Shuttleworth, of the U. S. Marine Corps, now stationed at Pensacola Navy-Yard. He has been in the rebel army three years, is a very intelligent youth, but left the Confederate service because he considers their cause hopeless.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 8, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point, Va.:

I can get nothing confirmatory of rumors that Kershaw has returned. I can hear directly from Petersburg through deserters nearly every day, and I have found but one man who had seen Kershaw, while several other men say that on Sunday last Fry's and Bratton's brigades passed through the city and took position on enemy's right. I think that move gave rise to the rumor.

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 8, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: My lookouts report no movements upon the part of the enemy to-day excepting the minor one this morning.

Plank road station reports:

The enemy are enlarging works near the lead-works and apparently are extending their lines farther to their extreme left. They have also commenced several new works of a light character at different points in our front. Two trains of nine and ten wagons went to our left beyond the Weldon railroad at 10 a. m. Camps unchanged.

The enemy are also strengthening their works upon the left bank of the Appomattox in the vicinity of Fort Clifton.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 8, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

Yesterday the Second Division was engaged in extending the line from the Norfolk road to the Blackwater and in slashing. The First Division was engaged principally in slashing; to-day they are continuing the work. A detail of 400 men are at work rebuilding the dam at the mill-pond. One brigade of the Second Division, which holds the left of my line, has been ordered to camp at the Deserted House, where

it will be more available as a support. One brigade of the First Division will be moved to the vicinity of the Chieves house to-day, the remainder of the division following as soon as the line is completed.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 8, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

Two deserters from Finegan's brigade came in this morning. They left their line about two hours before daylight and report that they know of no movement of troops whatever, and have heard nothing of Longstreet's troops except that they are in the Valley.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 8, 1864. (Sent 8.30 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The latest information is believed to establish as tolerably certain that no part of Early's troops have passed through Richmond or Petersburg. Both divisions may therefore be returned to their former positions, as the work they were assigned is not now one of immediate necessity and can be finished by details sent from the old camps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 8, 1864.

Brigadier-General MILES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires you to make arrangements to move one brigade near the Chieves house this afternoon, to camp so as to be available readily as a support to General Mott. The brigade will be followed by the rest of the division as soon as the line on which it is working is completed.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. WILSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 8, 1864.

Capt. W. P. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding, that a part of the picket-line opposite my

First Brigade was relieved during the night by some of the Richmond City Home Guards. The portion so relieved was picketed by Heth's division. It may have been done to stop desertions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 8, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that about 6 a. m. yesterday the enemy advanced a force near the Davis house and drove in the pickets at that point; the reserves were quickly deployed and the enemy as quickly retreated, carrying off with them eleven of our men. Nothing further of importance occurred during the day or night.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 8, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The following dispatch from signal officer on plank road is sent for your information:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 8, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following reports just received:

"PLANK ROAD STATION,
"*September 8, 1864—8 40 a. m.*

"At 8 a. m. a battery of artillery appeared in vicinity of lead-works, moving southward, and disappeared in woods west of large fort. Immediately about 800 infantry came from woods northwest of large fort, and moved southward on line of Weldon railroad. A few wagons moving westward near lead-works, but could not see the road to distinguish movements of infantry. Camps unchanged.

"FULTON,
"*Sergeant.*"

"AVERY HOUSE, *September 8, 1864—9 a. m.*

"Parties of enemy at work digging in ditches or saps extending from exploded fort and under enemy's front line. All quiet at other points.

"LYON,
"*Lieutenant.*"

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 8, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

As the authorized consolidation of this corps cannot practically go into effect until the reports for the last month are completed without delaying their execution, and as I find considerable difficulties attending the consolidation to make it as I think for the good of the service, I have decided to suspend any further action during the temporary absence of General Meade and lay the whole subject at some length before him for his reconsideration. Another reason for this delay is the amount of labor our new position gives us in making defenses, constructing roads, drains, wells, &c.

HISTORY OF THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE FIRST AND FIFTH CORPS.

In pursuance of General Orders, No. 10, headquarters Army of the Potomac, March 24, 1864,* the First and Fifth Corps were reduced each to two divisions and united in one, to be called the Fifth Army Corps. This was unpalatable to some, as it compelled a reduction of the number of brigades and divisions, and this, together with the return of officers absent during the winter, compelled Generals Ayres and Cutler, who had long commanded divisions, to go back to the command of brigades. It is also probable that the appointment of myself, junior in years to many of the generals under me, produced unpleasant reflections in their minds. Added to this was the reconstruction of the staff of the consolidated corps. In these matters my position was not an apparently easy one, especially as I had not the selection of my generals or the power of doing otherwise than to assign them according to their rank. My corps staff was also taken from the ranking officers in the different departments left with me. The corps was stretched along the railroad from Alexandria to Mitchell's Station, a distance of from sixty to seventy miles, and was only assembled in the vicinity of Culpeper on the 2d of May. The next day we began this campaign, remarkable above all others for its length and destruction of life. The new organization had not fairly begun to work before the losses in battle began to disturb it, and from that time to this almost every day's casualties required a new construction to meet the hour, again to be overthrown by the next battle.

The second day's battle in the Wilderness deprived me, by his death, of General Wadsworth (next to myself in rank), commanding one of the new divisions formed out of the First Corps, and wounds lost me General Baxter, commanding a brigade of the other division of the First Corps. Colonel McCandless, commanding a brigade in the old Fifth Corps, was wounded at Spotsylvania Court-House. The command of General Wadsworth's division fell to General Cutler. In the battle of May 8, near Spotsylvania, a severe wound deprived me of General Robinson, commanding the other division of the old First Corps, and for a time the adjutant-general of the corps, Colonel Locke, and Col. A. W. Denison, commanding Maryland Brigade. This left General Robinson's division without a general officer. I therefore assigned one brigade temporarily to the division commanded by General Cutler, one to that commanded by General Crawford, and retained the Maryland Brigade under my own immediate direction, as I also

* See Vol. XXXIII, p. 722.

did the brigade of heavy artillery, Colonel Kitching. The battle of the 10th of May cost us the life of General Rice, commanding a brigade then in the division of General Cutler. Losses in brigade commanders continued to occur frequently, but as they did not materially affect the organizations or divisions, I will not recount them. General Cutler was the only general officer belonging to the old First Corps remaining with us when we left Spotsylvania Court-House.

In this condition, without any time for reconstruction, we moved on and fought the battle on the North Anna, at Jericho Mills, and those at Bethesda Church. We also had numerous skirmishes, and, though known as such only, some days caused us a loss of 600 killed and wounded. While near Bethesda Church, the 29th day of May, General Lockwood, with re-enforcements, was assigned to duty with me, and I gave him the command of General Robinson's division, reunited for that purpose. That very day its adjutant-general and inspector-general were lost (being taken prisoners), and not deeming General Lockwood, under the circumstances, efficient as a division commander, and proper to be second to me in rank in the corps and my successor if I should become disabled, I applied to have him relieved, which was done. The time of the division of General Crawford (the Pennsylvania Reserves) expired just at this time, May 31, and I then assigned him to General Robinson's division, along with the veterans (constituting a small brigade) remaining of his former division. On arriving at Cold Harbor, June 6, the corps was placed for a few days in reserve, and a temporary reorganization was at once made. General Ayres, who ranked General Cutler, and was entitled to a division in preference, was given a division composed of his own brigade, the Heavy Artillery Brigade, and the Maryland Brigade, which had joined the old First Corps after Gettysburg. General Crawford retained the two old brigades of General Robinson's division and the veteran Reserves.

In General Griffin's division I replaced General Ayres' brigade by a brigade from General Cutler's division, which had belonged to the Third Division of the First Corps before the consolidation, and left General Cutler a division formed of the two brigades which he commanded before the consolidation and return of General Wadsworth. This was made after careful consideration and consultation with Colonel Bankhead, inspector-general of the old First Corps, and so far as I know was satisfactory to all the division commanders, except it might have been that General Cutler did not feel satisfied with two brigades. However, as one of the four divisions had to be composed of two brigades, I placed that condition on the junior commander in rank. The corps again lost very considerably by the battle before Petersburg, June 18, and after that I proposed to reduce the command to three divisions by uniting General Cutler's two brigades into one and placing it with General Ayres or General Crawford, in that case consolidating the Heavy Artillery Brigade and the veteran Reserves into a brigade for the other. The matter was referred to the commander of the Army of the Potomac.

As the officer whose feelings were most concerned, I consulted General Cutler on this subject, and found that he objected on the ground that it was breaking up the old First Corps. The changes I proposed making, though it formed new divisions, retained all the old First Corps brigades intact, except that it diminished the number by their consolidation as had been done with brigades of the old Fifth Corps. The commanding general, however, objected to my proposed reorgani-

zation and decided he would consider a proposition to put all the old First Corps regiments into one division if a suitable scheme was presented. This I found attended with difficulties. To each of the brigades new troops had been added during the campaign, and an effort had been made to distribute them among the old troops. These new troops would have to be taken from the old First Corps brigades and transferred to the Fifth Corps brigades. The brigade taken from General Griffin would thus have to be replaced by entirely new troops, and a new organization, and he would have to reorganize his other brigades if he put old troops into the new one, and similar arrangements would have to be made with General Ayres. The division to be formed of the old First Corps would have to be consolidated from five brigades to three, and thus the records of the regiments would be brought into confusion. The division to be formed out of the old First Corps regiments would be inordinately large in comparison with the others and be composed of all old troops. There are advantages to both old and new troops in being mingled together, and by this arrangement it would be lost to both. The proper time for making these changes, however, was about the 10th of the month, so that the last monthly reports could be completed before the command changed from the commanders to whom the reports had to be made.

Pending the arrival of this time our movement took place toward the Weldon railroad, and in the three days of battle there the corps suffered a further depletion of 3,959 men. It fell principally upon Ayres' and Crawford's divisions. The former lost 54 officers and 1,219 men, and the Sixth New York Heavy Artillery having been ordered to Washington, the remaining regiment of that brigade was attached to one of the other brigades, leaving but two brigades. In General Crawford's division the two veteran regiments, constituting a small brigade, and Colonel Lyle's brigade lost so heavily that both combined left but a very small brigade. The other brigade of this division also lost heavily. General Cutler in the last of these engagements was so severely wounded as to be compelled to leave the field. I therefore transferred temporarily one of his brigades, Colonel Hofmann's, to General Ayres, and the other, General Bragg's, to General Crawford.

After consultation with the general commanding Army of the Potomac on the subject of reorganization after these battles on the Weldon railroad, he adhered to the determination to have the regiments of the old First Corps made into one division. On having a return made up of the strength present in these old regiments I found it was 5,781, which by mistake was taken by me as present for duty, and this I knew was more than half the strength of the corps. I then suggested that the old Fifth Corps be also made into one division, which was acceded to. Upon investigation I found my mistake in the 5,781 for duty, as it included all in arrest and confinement and on special and daily duty.

According to the tri-monthly report for August 31 the strength of the corps is:

	Aggregate present.
Old regiments of First Corps	5,781
Field artillery	1,397
Old regiments of Fifth Corps and new regiments assigned during campaign, including heavy artillery and Maryland Brigade	10,537
	17,715

The troops as now arranged are:

	Aggregate present.
First Division, General Griffin:	
First Brigade (old First Corps troops, five regiments, 1,445 officers and men)	a1,979
Second Brigade (old First Corps troops, none)	2,214
Third Brigade (old First Corps troops, none)	2,213
	6,406
Deduct old First Corps troops	1,445
Fifth Corps troops in Griffin's division	4,961
Second Division, General Ayres:	
First Brigade (old First Corps troops, none)	2,675
Second Brigade (Maryland Brigade)	1,516
Third Brigade (old First Corps, four regiments, 931 officers and men)	b1,676
	5,867
Deduct old First Corps troops	931
Fifth Corps troops in General Ayres' division	4,936
Third Division, General Crawford:	
First Brigade (old Fifth Corps troops, 574)	c1,614
Second Brigade (all old First Corps)	1,215
Third Brigade (all old First Corps)	1,150
	3,979
Deduct old Fifth Corps troops	574
Old First Corps troops	3,405
Total of old First Corps troops:	
In First Division	1,445
In Second Division	931
In Third Division	3,405
	5,781

If this is made the Third Division, under General Crawford, there will be left for—

First Division, General Griffin	4,961
Second Division, General Ayres, by transferring Pennsylvania Reserves to it.	5,510

If it is determined to organize the command as above, by the approval of the commanding general I will issue an order as follows:

First. The Fourth Division, Fifth Army Corps, is hereby discontinued.

Second. All the regiments belonging to the old First Corps at the time of its formation (now in First and Second Divisions, enumerate them) are hereby transferred to the Third Division.

Third. The veteran Pennsylvania Reserves are transferred to the Second Division.

Fourth. The prospect of filling up the corps renders it desirable to retain the organization of three brigades to a division, and each division commander will arrange his brigades as he thinks best.

Fifth. The following staff officers are hereby assigned as follows: (For further consideration.)

---

a Difference, 534. *b* Difference, 745. *c* Difference, 1,040.

I make the above proposition to meet what I consider to be the wishes of the general commanding the Army of the Potomac, under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 8, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report all quiet on my front during the last twenty-four hours. Scouts report the enemy leaving their camps during the night in front of the First Brigade, Third Division, taking everything with them. No changes have been discovered in the position of the enemy in front of any other portion of the line.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on the lines of the Second Cavalry Division during the night. At one or two points a few dismounted men occasionally approach the line. These men are seeking a remount.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Cavalry.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *September 8, 1864.*

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy have not fired so regularly to-day as yesterday. They invariably cease shelling soon after our batteries open. Major Ludlow seems to think that we ought to stop their fire altogether, a thing utterly impossible, you know. The working party has not been compelled to quit labor a minute during the day. Last night not a shot was fired by the rebels in this direction. All had a quiet sleep.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 8, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I am pushing work forward at all points on the redoubts of second line. Have commenced one at Hare house, inclosing the work there.

During the past twenty-four hours the enemy have been pushing a trench toward our line from the Crater. Do not understand its object. Will try and develop it to-day. A deserter of the usual intelligence reports that Beauregard left for Georgia night before last in great haste.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 8, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

Deserter just in says that the trench referred to by me in 9 o'clock report is a covered way to their picket-line. He says the ration of corn meal was reduced yesterday three-quarters of a pound; he says that a part of Bushrod Johnson's command, to which he belongs, was under orders to march at 3 o'clock this morning; this last I doubted from his want of particular specific information.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 8, 1864.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to forward the following report of events occurring during the past twenty-four hours within this command: In consequence of Colonel Pond's illness I assumed command of the brigade yesterday at 11 a. m. I find the general condition of the command good. The police of the camps and trenches is being improved very much and is now in a good state of progression. In pursuance with instructions from division headquarters, the Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers has been relieved from all duties except those connected with the position assigned them. Besides the occupation of the fourteen-gun battery by the Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, the balance of the command will be disposed of as follows: One hundred men to the left of the fourteen-gun battery, 140 between the fourteen-gun battery and Follett's battery, 85 men to the right of Follett's, and 50 men on picket, making 375 men to be furnished from three regiments. In consequence of the heavy details it will be impossible to furnish two reliefs for the trenches. I have therefore determined to dispose of the command so as to be on duty two days and off one. The officer of the trenches reports that the enemy are working away at the old Crater and are running a sap from that point toward our works, which is already past their chevaux-de-frise. But very little firing is done in my front during the day. No casualties have occurred during the past twenty-four hours.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. VORIS,
Colonel Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, Commanding Brigade.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, TENTH CORPS,
September 8, 1864.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I am satisfied that the enemy are pushing two saps from the Crater toward the salient point of our picket-line to the front of the Crater. The work does not appear to be pushed with much vigor. I could discover, say, two or three shovels at work at the same time in each sap. Would it not be a good plan to annoy them as much as possible from the picket-line by musketry? I have given instructions to the officer in command of the picket detail to give special attention to this matter and report promptly any discoveries he may make.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. VORIS,
Colonel Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, Commanding Brigade.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, KAUTZ'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, September 8, 1864.

Capt. M. J. ASCH,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I send down to-day a party of contrabands who came in yesterday and to-day. They represent that the enemy have disappeared from our front, excepting a few scattering scouts. According to their accounts, the farmers are thrashing out their grain with all possible dispatch, and hurrying it and their prime negroes beyond Dinwiddie Court-House. At one point, about six miles beyond our lines, is a farmer named Heth or Heath who has about 600 bushels of wheat and a greater quantity of prime oats already thrashed and winnowed out. This had not been moved two days ago. I have ordered out all the dismounted men who can be spared from the dismounted camp of the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, and propose organizing a dismounted party of picked men to ferret out those scouts and bushwhackers who are continually annoying our pickets. They sometimes get within our lines for the purpose of obtaining intelligence. Lieutenant-Colonel Jacobs, Third New York Cavalry, reports that he was fired upon near Sturdivant's Mill by a scout or bushwhacker three days ago. I think the party I propose to organize, judiciously handled, will be of more service here than lying idle in camp. If there is any objection, will you please notify me.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROB. M. WEST,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

WASHINGTON, *September 9, 1864—2.50 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The recruiting returns show an average of about 5,000 mustered in per day for the last week.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 9, 1864.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff of the Army, Washington, D. C.:

Under the construction given to it the War Department Circular, No. 61, is giving rise to much dissatisfaction. According to it officers and non-commissioned officers of the three-years' organizations, who have at times varying from that of original organization to the present accepted promotions won by merit, often, if not always, in the belief that thereby their term of service was not increased, are now held for three years from their last promotion and remuster. I submit that such a decision at this late day is of doubtful expediency, with reference to those officers who, previous to the publication of the circular referred to, had accepted promotion, as, even if good officers, they will still feel that they have been unjustly treated and unfairly held. Since the promulgation of this circular many valuable officers are refusing promotion, which, while purporting to be a reward, yet imposes at once, without opportunity for furlough, another term of three years' service. For the good of the service I therefore respectfully recommend that circular be so changed that at all remusters arising from promotions, whether before or after its date, officers shall have the option of being remustered for the unexpired portion of their term of service or for three years, as they shall choose.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Four deserters from the enemy just received that came into General Mott's division, Second Corps, about 9 o'clock last evening. Two of them are from Harris' brigade, and two from Finegan's brigade, all of Mahone's division, Hill's corps. One of the deserters from Harris' brigade, Nineteenth Mississippi Regiment, states that Humphreys' brigade, of Kershaw's division, has been lying in the rear of Mahone's division for the past five or six days until yesterday, when it moved to the right toward the Weldon railroad; that he visited this brigade day before yesterday, which was encamped in a valley just to the rear of Mahone's division; is positive they moved to the right yesterday; understood the brigade had lately come from the north side of the Appomattox, but did not know whether it had been to the Valley or not; that it was rumored yesterday Heth's division was about to move to the right; had not moved when informant left. Position of Hill's corps remains unchanged as far as known by these deserters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Four deserters forwarded this p. m. from headquarters Ninth Army Corps. They came into our lines this morning about 5

o'clock. They are from the Sixteenth Virginia Regiment, Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division, and Third Georgia Regiment, Wright's brigade, same division. Report no change in enemy's position. One of the men from Third Georgia Regiment thinks Field's division is in rear of Mahone's; saw Jenkins' brigade there (now Bratton's), also Law's (Alabama) brigade. Know nothing of whereabouts of Kershaw's division by either of informants.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 9, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Can you locate Field's division? Two brigades of it reported to be in rear of Mahone's division to-day, Law's and Jenkins'.

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 9, 1864.

Major FISHER:

The enemy continues to strengthen and extend his works at different points. The woods in vicinity of lead-works are being thinned out, making their camps appear larger; no movements visible.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 9, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to Maj. Gen. A. A. Humphreys.

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

JORDAN HOUSE SIGNAL STATION,
September 9, 1864—12 m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

There is a large party at work on Fort Clifton, apparently making a new face to the south side of that work. The enemy are still at work opposite the Rushmore house. Only two limbers are visible there this a. m. There is a train of cars, one loaded with hay, the rest are box-cars, in Petersburg to our right of the Norfolk depot and near the railroad bridge. Nothing of the kind has been observed at that point before. Trains are moving both ways every day in Petersburg at the point where the dirt road to Richmond crosses the Lynchburg railroad.

Respectfully,

T. R. CLARK,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 9, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major FISHER:

Enemy are digging rifle-pits in rear of their picket-line in vicinity of Gregory's. The usual activity visible on works at different points.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 9, 1864—1 p. m.

Brigadier-General HUNT,
Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have to request that the batteries now occupying Fort Hell and the position on its immediate right be withdrawn and replaced by batteries of this corps to-morrow morning, in order that the batteries there may be under one command. The enemy have been permitted to work lately in a manner which should not have been allowed. A powerful fort has been erected by the enemy since the withdrawal of the New Hampshire battery from Fort Hell, which formerly kept down the enemy's working parties. I have to request that to-night Captain Edgell should take charge of all the batteries from the plank road to 1,000 yards to the right, to include Fort Warren, as I am intending to perform a delicate operation and wish the batteries to be under his charge for the time being, in order that General Mott, in command of the line, can control them. I wish that the matter should be kept as secret as possible, and therefore wish to have the matter entirely under General Mott's control.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding Second Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 9, 1864—3 p. m.

General HANCOCK:

Captain Harn, commanding the batteries between the plank road and railroad, is ordered to report to you. You have already been informed, through your chief of artillery, that all the batteries on your front were at your disposal for any service connected with the operation of your troops. It is now forty-eight hours since I visited Fort Hell. I have not yet seen the powerful work you refer to as being erected in that time.

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 9, 1864—4.05 p. m.

Brig. Gen. H. J. HUNT,
Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac:

I am not aware that I have been informed by my chief of artillery that all the batteries in my front were at my disposal, nor do I consider that such is the proper way of informing me of the fact, and as you have not complied with my wishes on the subject referred to this morning I

shall hereafter apply to different sources. I did not suppose that any of the batteries would refuse to obey my orders if I directed them to fire or not to fire, but out of courtesy to you I addressed the telegram to you of this morning. If you have not lately seen the powerful work on my left which I referred to this morning you can readily see it by visiting the lines.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 9, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I sent a telegram to General Hunt this morning, requesting that my chief of artillery, Captain Edgell, might be placed in charge of all the batteries on my line from Fort Warren to the plank road in connection with my operations to-night only. Also that he would substitute my own batteries for those recently put in Fort Hell, as since mine were withdrawn, the enemy have been allowed to work without molestation on a powerful work to my left, which work was previously much retarded. General Hunt did not comply with either of my requests, but returned an equivocal answer. I find that a Captain Harn has been put in charge of a part of the batteries on my line, while my chief of artillery has charge of others. I do not wish to apply to General Hunt any further, but refer the matter to you for decision. I desired as few heads as possible for my operations to-night. At 1 o'clock in the morning I propose to try and remove the enemy's picket-line in my front, which has been strengthened during the last two days by new rows of pits.

I send you a copy of the dispatch I sent General Hunt, and his reply, to which I respectfully invite your attention.*

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 9, 1864. (Sent 6.30 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I saw General Hunt before receiving your telegram, and understood from him that he had ordered Captain Harn to report to you, not only that he might be under the orders of your chief of artillery, but that you might also make any changes that you desire in the batteries, placing in position such as you preferred of your own artillery and withdrawing those not belonging to your own corps, not only for to night but as the permanent arrangement. Please have such as you withdraw and do not need in reserve for your corps ordered to report to General Hunt for reserve for the general line.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

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* See 1 p. m. and 3 p. m., p. 759.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 9, 1864. (Received 7 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

Captain Harn did report to me, but not under the conditions mentioned in your dispatch, and I gave him no orders until I could hear from you. Your dispatch arranges the matter satisfactorily, as would a similar one from General Hunt in answer to mine first sent him.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 77. } HDQRS. 1ST BRIG., 3D DIV., 2D CORPS,
September 9, 1864.

1. Lieutenant-Colonel Meikel, commanding Twentieth Indiana Veteran Volunteers, will take his regiment and the Second U. S. Sharpshooters in front of that part of your line which extends on the left of the new redoubt built on the Jerusalem plank road. The movement will be executed at 12 o'clock to-night most quickly, and so as to remain unnoticed by the enemy's pickets. At 1 a. m. Colonel Meikel will carry the enemy's rifle-pits from a point marked by a single tree on the left to the Jerusalem road, including the point known as the Chimneys, where he will be supported by some companies of the Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, under Colonel Biles' command. From the point of attack marked by the little tree alluded to he will establish on the left a new straight line of rifle-pits, connecting with the present one at the next projecting point of woods. He will occupy and defend his new line, if attacked, until after sunrise, when the two regiments under his command will be relieved by the advance of the present line of the Third Brigade. It is deemed preferable to carry the point at a rush, with fixed bayonets, and without any firing if possible.

2. Col. E. R. Biles, commanding the Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, will take his regiment in front of that part of our line which extends from Fort Hell to a point on the right opposite to a single tree, where a new line of pickets will be advanced during the evening. The movement will be executed at 12 o'clock to-night most quietly, and so as to remain unnoticed by the enemy's pickets. At 1 a. m. Colonel Biles will establish thoroughly a new picket-line from the single tree already alluded to up to the point known as the Chimneys, keeping two or three companies to rush to that point if necessary and carry it in connection with Colonel Meikel, Twentieth Indiana Veteran Volunteers, who will carry that part of the enemy's rifle-pits from the left. He will occupy and defend his new line, if attacked, until after sunrise, when his regiment will be relieved by the advance of our present line. It is deemed preferable to carry the point at a rush, with fixed bayonets, and without any firing if possible.

By command of Brig. Gen. R. de Trobriand:

JAS. M. LINNARD,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND CORPS,
September 9, 1864.

The regimental commanders will put the whole of their commands under arms and in the breast-works at 12 o'clock to-night, and will keep them so until after sunrise ready for any emergency. They will take

care that no light or noise may cause the enemy's pickets to suspect, and still less to ascertain, that any movement is going on in our line. During the temporary withdrawal of the Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania, the One hundred and twenty-fourth and Eighty-sixth New York Volunteers will spread their lines to the left so as to fill up the gap to Fort Warren. During the temporary withdrawal of the Twentieth Indiana, the Fortieth New York Volunteers will spread its line to the left so as to connect with the Seventeenth Maine. It is recommended that the men should not be informed of any intended movement before the hour appointed for its execution.

By command of Brig. Gen. R. de Trobriand:

JAS. M. LINNARD,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 9, 1864.

CAPTAIN COMMANDING THE PICKET LINE:

You will get your men quietly under arms at 12.30 o'clock to-night. The pickets on your right, at the head of the plank road, are to be advanced at 1 o'clock precisely. If the pickets on your front make any demonstration to advance you must repulse them, or if they commence firing on our troops to the right you will return the fire, so as to relieve our troops as much as possible. You will therefore see the importance of having your men all under arms and in good position, so as to repulse the enemy should they attack you, or to fire upon them should they open on our troops to your right. Use great caution in getting your pickets under arms, so as not to attract the attention of the enemy.

Respectfully, yours,

B. R. PIERCE,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 9, 1864.

Col. R. MCALLISTER, *Third Brigade:*

COLONEL: During the operation to-night you will please instruct your pickets and the reserve that they must not fire unless the party operating is driven back and there is danger of an assault from the enemy, and to be very careful not to fire on our own troops. It may be necessary for you to advance the left of your line after the new line is established. You will act accordingly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance occurred yesterday or last night. Working parties, numbering 200 men, were at work during the day on the defenses at this point.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 9, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I again find myself in the position I have been so often before, surrounded by starving women and children. They are unwilling to take the oath, as they do not know but it may be made a source of oppression to them by our enemies if we remove, and it hardly seems right to exact such a sacred thing from women under the pressure of craving hunger. I cannot see them starve, and have not the means to support them. Cannot I be authorized to issue rations to support those within our lines?

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 9, 1864.

General G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Patrick says he will at once take the necessary measures to relieve the destitute women and children alluded to in your dispatch of this morning. Perhaps it would be best for you in such cases to refer the parties to the provost-marshal-general.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 9, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: It is hardly possible to send these distressed people to the provost-marshal-general. They are old and enfeebled or too young, and those that have any strength are absolutely required at home to take care of the sick and the babies. In spite of all we can do, our pillagers keep these people in constant terror, and under threats of burning the houses ransack everything. It is distressing to listen to their stories, the evidence of whose truth is seen in every dwelling.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 9, 1864.

General G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

I did not mean to convey the idea that you were to send the destitute people to General Patrick. I only desire to suggest that it would perhaps save you inconvenience were you to refer their applications or make known their necessities to General Patrick.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 9, 1864.

General WARREN:

At 1 o'clock to-night I propose to try and capture or drive off the enemy's picket-line in my front to the right and left of the plank road.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 9, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Deserters from Mahone's division, who left their picket last night, report no addition to the forces in this vicinity. They say there is considerable despondency among the Georgia troops since Sherman's victory. Three of them belong to the Third Georgia. General Grant's order is getting to be known, but there is much talk of the terms on which deserters will be received, few having a chance to see the order.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 9, 1864.

General WILLCOX:

I am about making an attack to obtain the enemy's pickets in my front, the right and left of the plank road. The troops going in will probably come out at the Strong house, a little to your right. The hour fixed is 1 o'clock.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on the line of the Second Division. Last evening at dark a few of the enemy's cavalry appeared on the plank road in front of my vedettes. I will make an examination of the country in front of the Gurley house, and if practicable will push the line farther out to-day.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Division.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *September 9, 1864.*

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that from twenty to thirty shells have been fired by the enemy at the canal to-day, but two of which took effect. The remainder burst wide, doing no damage to any one.

We have a very small mark to fire at, and of course cannot hit every time. Our average shots are as good as could be expected. The rebels seem to fire now and then simply out of spite. Tried the light guns to-day and thought they did good execution. Shall try them again to-morrow and save the 8-inch shells as much as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing new on my line. The enemy are pushing forward four trenches, saps, or approaches to my works. They are seven feet deep, five feet wide. A scout of mine crept up to them last evening and so reports. Can't imagine their use. I will place my Coehorn mortars in position near them to-day and try and stop further progress. The redoubts are in fair progress.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, September 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to furnish you the following copy of a telegram just received:

General BIRNEY:

At 1 o'clock to-night I propose to try and capture or drive off the enemy's picket-line in my front to the right and left of the plank road.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 9, 1864.

Capt. A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report all quiet this morning. The enemy kept up a fire of musketry last night. The officer of the trenches reported yesterday evening:

The enemy have opened two embrasures in the works about fifty yards to the right of the Crater. They have strengthened their works much, and are working at what appears to be the saps approaching our line, two from the east and one from the northeast face of the Crater. They had a fatigue party of 100 men at work last night. The trenches distant from the fort appear to be diminished.

There is no doubt that saps are being run from their line steadily toward ours. Musketry can do little toward preventing the work, as

those at work are under cover. A deserter who came into our lines last night says that the work done by the enemy in front of the Crater between the lines is done with a view of extending their picket-line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. VORIS,

Colonel Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, Comdg. First Brigade.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Deep Bottom, Va., September 9, 1864.

Lieut. Col. G. A. KENSEL,
General Butler's Headquarters, Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: On the rebel left of main road to Richmond is Gary's cavalry brigade; don't know its division. It is Seventh South Carolina Cavalry, Twenty-fourth Virginia Cavalry, and Hampton Legion; don't know its numbers. To the rebel right comes Gregg's brigade, Field's division, commanded by Colonel Bass. It is composed of the First, Fourth, and Fifth Texas and Third Arkansas. I think they will average 150 each regiment. There was also a week ago General Benning's brigade, Second, Fifteenth, Seventeenth, and Twentieth Georgia—know nothing of their strength—opposite Grover's house; also Twenty-fifth Virginia City Battalion near same point, and I think the Ninth Virginia; don't know their strength. The Twenty-fifth is comparatively quite strong. When I came I was informed that Generals Bratton's and Law's brigades, of Field's division, were here. A deserter reported Law's brigade to have left. I have heard nothing about Bratton's since I have been here. A deserter, August 27, said Bushrod Johnson's old brigade joined the picket-line of Benning's brigade at Aiken's gate. I have had only one squad of deserters for a week. They belonged to Gregg's brigade, and also knew of the cavalry. Gregg commands the front.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. PAINE,

Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Deep Bottom, Va., September 9, 1864.

Major READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: In reference to your telegram of September 6, directing me to ascertain and report concerning the roads in this vicinity, I have to state that there is but one principal road leading from this post about north toward the enemy's lines. This is the Bottom road. Is good so far as the enemy's pickets. It is supposed to continue good and to run in nearly the same direction as far as the main road to Richmond. Two paths or farm-house roads join it on our left and outside our lines, both, however, communicating into our lines. Below Four-Mile Creek the main road from Richmond is in sight from our lines beyond the enemy's pickets. It comes down over a high hill, on which are works and a camp, apparently crosses the head of Four-Mile Creek, and passes down along the edge of the timber beyond the open plain. I beg further to state that I have little means of learning the roads beyond my lines unless I drive away the enemy's pickets. The troops here

under General Foster occupied at one time and know the country roads in front of this point, as also Second Corps, &c., below Four-Mile Creek. Doubtless from them extensive and accurate information on this subject could be had.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. PAINE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 9, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: The reports from the picket-lines this morning show everything quiet along the entire line.

Very respectfully,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 8. } HDQRS. KAUTZ'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, September 9, 1864.

I. The camp of dismounted men and convalescents will be moved from Jones' Neck to the Jordan Point and Petersburg road, near the quartermaster's and commissary depot. The commanding officer of the camp will concentrate the command into one camp. The men of each regiment will be organized into temporary companies of not more than 100 men to each company, and an officer detailed to take charge of each company from the regiment to which the men belong.

II. A general hospital will be established for the entire division, in the vicinity of the camp, under the general supervision of the medical director, who will direct the necessary medical attendance, by proportionate details from the regiment.

III. The camp will be organized and guarded according to regulations; strict discipline will be maintained. The prescribed roll-calls, at least two drills daily, and an efficient camp guard will be kept up.

IV. Picket-lines will be established in each company and a proportionate number of horses assigned to each to be cared for. Stable duty will be rigidly enforced.

V. As men and horses become fit for duty they will be returned to their regiments. The men will not be permitted to join or visit the dismounted camp without permission from their company or regimental commander.

VI. When necessary, horses, arms, and accouterments will be transferred from one man to another, and from one company to another, in the same regiment, in order that all the available men and horses may be for duty with the regiments.

VII. An officer will be detailed by the commanding officer of the camp to do the duty of quartermaster and commissary. An acting adjutant will also be detailed by him, and semi-weekly reports of the camp will be furnished these headquarters.

VIII. It will be the duty of the commanding officer so to govern and regulate his command as not to afford a refuge for malingerers and

shirks whilst the faithful men are doing their duty at the front. The general commanding the division will afford every facility and authority for the efficient execution of this order, and will hold the commanding officer responsible.

By command of Brig. Gen. A. V. Kautz:

M. J. ASCH,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL EXECUTIVE ORDER RETURNING THANKS TO THE OHIO VOLUNTEERS FOR 100 DAYS.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
Washington City, September 10, 1864.

The term of 100 days for which the National Guard of Ohio volunteered having expired, the President directs an official acknowledgment to be made of their patriotic and valuable services during the recent campaigns. The term of service of their enlistment was short, but distinguished by memorable events. In the Valley of the Shenandoah, on the Peninsula, in the operations on the James River, around Petersburg and Richmond, in the battle of Monocacy, and in the intrenchments of Washington, and in other important service, the National Guard of Ohio performed with alacrity the duty of patriotic volunteers, for which they are entitled to and are hereby tendered, through the Governor of their State, the national thanks.

The Secretary of War is directed to transmit a copy of this order to the Governor of Ohio, and to cause a certificate of their honorable service to be delivered to the officers and soldiers of the Ohio National Guard who recently served in the military force of the United States as volunteers for 100 days.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

WASHINGTON, *September 10, 1864—12.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

Had not the new infantry regiments now coming in better be sent to City Point? The facilities for desertion here and with General Sheridan are so great that we shall soon lose large numbers. Moreover, we have difficulty in getting officers enough to drill the new artillery regiments. Infantry regiments will not improve here without experienced officers to look after them.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 10, 1864—6.30 p. m.*
(Received 10.20 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

I would like very much to have all the new regiments sent here. They can be made good use of, and will improve more rapidly here than they possibly could about the cities.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *September 10, 1864—6.30 p. m.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

The following information is just received from a deserter, who left Richmond on Monday, but came into our lines to-day. Please communicate it to the Navy Department. He says that Captain Wood, of the Tallahassee, had been on to Richmond; that on last Monday 200 sailors from the receiving ship lying near Drewry's Bluff were sent to Wilmington under the command of Lieutenant Murdaugh to man a new vessel of war that was soon to run out to sea. He adds a piece of army news that all boys over sixteen years of age and old men under fifty-five had been ordered into Richmond.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 10, 1864.*

Hon. G. V. FOX,
Assistant Secretary of the Navy:

Your letter of the 9th instant, inclosing copy of instructions to Admiral Farragut, was received by last night's mail.* I have no suggestions to make different from what those instructions contain. As soon as the land forces can be spared and the navy is ready to co-operate, I will send an expedition of sufficient force quietly down the coast, not even allowing the command, with the exception of the commanding officer, to know where they are going. The details for landing a force can be best arranged by Admiral Farragut and the commander of the land forces. So soon as all is arranged I will acquaint you with what is done on my part.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 10, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Referring to the conversation I had with you a few days ago in relation to the regulations respecting the term for which officers are to be held who have received new commissions since the date of their original entry into the service, I respectfully invite your attention to the Circular No. 61, copy herewith, issued from the War Department upon the subject; and also to Circular No. 73, received this day, modifying somewhat Circular No. 61. It is respectfully submitted that the regulation upon the subject, as modified, does not altogether meet the point I presented for your consideration, viz, should an officer who has served three years, and who claims his discharge on that ground, be held, even if there is a command for him, and he has received a new commission since his original entry into the service. In the absence of Circular No. 73 the muster out of supernumerary officers would at any rate have been ordered. I would respectfully add that in my judgment the interests of the service will be greatly promoted if a regulation be promulgated simply stating that officers, non-commissioned officers, and

* Fox's letter, with inclosure, not found; but for the instructions to Rear-Admiral Farragut, see Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 4, 1865, p. 1.

privates receiving commissions will be mustered into the grade to which they may be appointed for three years or for the unexpired portion of their original term of service at their option, such a regulation to have retrospective action.

Very respectfully, &c.,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 10, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Five deserters and fifty-seven prisoners of war were forwarded this a. m. from General Mott's division, Second Army Corps. The deserters are all from the Eleventh Florida, Finegan's brigade, and came into our lines shortly after dark last evening, just previous to the capture of the prisoners. The prisoners represent two brigades of Mahone's division, Finegan's and Harris'. Ten of them are from the Twelfth, Nineteenth, and Forty-eighth Mississippi, of Harris' brigade, and the remainder from all the regiments of Finegan's brigade. The picket-line of Harris' brigade was attacked by us near its left where it joins Finegan. Harris' brigade lies to the right of Finegan. None of the deserters or prisoners give any information of importance. The position of Hill's corps remains unchanged. Some of them report a division of Longstreet in rear of Mahone; suppose it to be Field's division. More than half of Finegan's men seem anxious to take the oath of allegiance and go North.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 10, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Twenty-four prisoners of war from the Twelfth, Sixteenth, and Nineteenth Mississippi have been forwarded from the Second Army Corps in addition to those received early this a. m. The total number received thus far is eighty-three, representing only Harris' and Finegan's brigades. The last bring no additional information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

CITY POINT, *September 10, 1864.*

J. C. BABCOCK,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

I was over at General Butler's yesterday p. m. and examined prisoners and deserters there. The troops on the north side of the James are

Benning's and Gregg's brigades, of Field's division, and Bushrod Johnson's old (Tennessee) brigade. The whole of Pickett's division, with Thomas' brigade, holds the line between the two rivers.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 10, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: My lookout near the Gibbon house reports a strong detail of the enemy, about 2,000, at work this afternoon throwing up a line of works running off at a small angle from the vicinity of the main line near the plank road, and leading through the woods in direction of the lead-works, or perhaps a little to the right of them. The officer at plank road station reports:

The enemy are working by heavy detail on a new line of works in our immediate front and on another line by edge of woods north-northwest from station. They are working on our whole front, but with less force than on new line. They are also extending works on our extreme left beyond the Weldon railroad. During the forenoon about 1,000 men, in three detachments, moved southward along the Weldon railroad. They came from the woods west of the fort in that vicinity.

The following messages were intercepted:

Sergeant R.,
At C.:
Is Barton's brigade at the Dunn house?

A.,
Sergeant.

Sergeant A.:
Yes.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 10, 1864—8 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:
All quiet. No change in enemy's lines or camps.
H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

PLANK ROAD STATION,
September 10, 1864.

Major FISHER:
Between 8.30 and 9 a. m. 1,050 infantry, in parties of 500, 300, and 250, came from woods west of large fort near Weldon railroad and moved south on line of Weldon railroad.

H. W. FULTON.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 10, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major FISHER, *Chief Signal Officer:*

The following was intercepted:

Colonel B[RENT]:

About 8.30 two trains, one of six and one of eleven six-horse wagons, passed open space coming from enemy's left in Chesterfield and going toward pontoon. The camps to our left of open space have visibly decreased. Troops are drilling in open space above pontoon.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 10, 1864—1 p. m.

Major FISHER, *Chief Signal Officer:*

Intercepted the following:

12.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Eleven six-horse wagons passed open space going toward enemy's front in Chesterfield. A force of cavalry, supposed to be two regiments, passed open space going toward lower pontoon.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

STATION NEAR GIBBON'S HOUSE,
September 10, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER, *Chief Signal Officer:*

The enemy have a force of at least 2,500 men working on fortifications to left of Petersburg; the greater part on enfilading works reported last night.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 10, 1864—2.50 p. m.

Major FISHER, *Chief Signal Officer:*

Intercepted the following:

Colonel B[RENT]:

Several wagons passed military road going toward lower pontoon. A force of cavalry, supposed to be about two regiments, passing Bermuda Hundred road, going toward that place. I think it is the same force which I reported about an hour ago. A train of seven wagons passed open space going toward our front in Chesterfield.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 10, 1864—5 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

One regiment of infantry passed open space coming from enemy's front in Chesterfield and going toward Bermuda Hundred, followed by four wagons. One steamer just gone down the river. No boats visible.

R.,
Sergeant.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 10, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

A party of twelve men is working on Fort Clifton. A heavy dust is observed rising in rear of Richmond road. All quiet otherwise.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

SEPTEMBER 10, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major FISHER:

Enemy at work digging saps or ditches leading from exploded fort. Also small parties digging at two or three other points of line.

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 10, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major FISHER:

The enemy are working by heavy detail on a new line of works in our immediate front and on another new line by edge of woods north-northwest from station. They are working on our whole front but with less force than on new works; are also extending works on our extreme left. Camps unchanged and no movements observed.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

SEPTEMBER 10, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

The fatigue force reported this p. m. would fully reach the number stated. They seemed to commence work all along the line of hills but the larger body is on the enfilading works. A new line of rifle-pits also appeared this morning along the side of same hills but nearer our front. No movements of account to-day.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 10, 1864—2 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

General Mott reports at 1.30 a. m. that he has carried the enemy's rifle-pits and is establishing his line on the crest near the plank road. It was done by the bayonet. He has a few prisoners and is reversing the line.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Same to General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 10, 1864. (Received 1 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

About 3 this morning the enemy attacked the right of my new picket-line, recapturing the picket-pits to the plank road. From that point I hold and have reversed their line for about half a mile to the left of the road. I occupy the crest at the Chimneys. At this point the enemy's picket-pits are about fifteen yards from ours and I anticipate war to-night. There was some bad management in placing the right of the line last night. It was intended to fill up the enemy's pits there and make a new line along the edge of the ravine, but the regimental commander extended his line down the ravine, which subjected him to a flank attack. I believe I sent up about 90 prisoners. My own loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners is about 40, I hear, though it may be less. Lieutenant-Colonel Meikel, Twentieth Indiana, was severely, if not mortally, wounded. Picket-firing is sharp there to-day.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Same to General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 10, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

Since last report the whole of the Second Division has been placed in camp near the Deserted House. The First Division is camped near the Jones and Chieves houses. Both divisions have large details still at work cutting timber in front of the rear line. The picket-line in front of the advanced works on the plank road was advanced last night to the position heretofore held by the enemy. About 80 prisoners were captured.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 10, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Major-General Meade has returned and resumed command of this army.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Warren, Willcox, and Birney.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 10, 1864.

General HANCOCK:

What is the result of your operations of this morning?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

SEPTEMBER 10, 1864.

General WARREN,
Fifth Corps:

We captured about 90 prisoners and secured the crest about the Chimneys. The enemy made one or two attacks to regain the position, and succeeded in capturing about 30 men from one flank of the new line, but they met with no great success. I am about going up to examine the line and will telegraph you again. The general is asleep.

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 10, 1864—9.45 p. m.

General O. B. WILLCOX,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

GENERAL: In case of trouble on your extreme right (my extreme left) I request that you will direct one regiment to take the place between the new fort on your right and the old rifle-pit which your men built a few days since. I suppose that such are the orders. I think we will have a feverish, noisy night.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 10, 1864—8 a. m.

Capt. JOHN N. CRAIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Artillery, Army of the Potomac:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the following operations of this command during the past twenty-four hours: About 3 p. m. yesterday the enemy opened fire upon a party of our troops on the plank road, and again still later upon our works, firing in all some twenty shots. This was promptly replied to by Ricketts' battery (F), First Pennsylvania Artillery, and Clark's (B), First New Jersey Artillery, and soon silenced.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. M. EDGELL,
Captain, Commanding.

(Copy to Capt. W. P. Wilson, acting assistant adjutant-general, Second Corps.)

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 10, 1864.

Capt. W. P. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: In obedience to instructions previously received, all the batteries of this corps bearing upon the enemy, and also the line of batteries from Fort Hell to the Norfolk railroad, under the command of Captain Harn, were got under arms at 1 o'clock this morning to support a movement of General Mott's division against the enemy's picket-line. The movement was I believe successfully made. The enemy fired but few musket shots on the advance of our line, but soon after opened with artillery from their main work in front of Fort Hell, directing their fire principally down the plank road. Only an occasional shot from a rifle battery to the right of Fort Hell was sent in reply to this, but later upon the enemy's feeling our line with infantry the other batteries on the line were opened, and up to this time skirmishing has been kept up and frequent exchanges by the artillery. No casualties to this command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. M. EDGELL,
Captain, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 10, 1864—3.40 a. m.

Brigadier-General MILES,
Commanding First Division, Second Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding the corps directs me to say that you will please have your division under arms at daybreak. The troops will remain under arms until half an hour after daylight.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. G. MITCHELL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 10, 1864.

Capt. W. P. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that Lieutenant-Colonel McGee, Sixty-ninth New York Volunteers, has this day reported for duty with his regiment. He is senior in rank to Lieutenant-Colonel Wilson, Eighty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, who is now commanding the Consolidated Brigade of this division under paragraph 4 of Special Orders, No. 218, current series, from headquarters Second Corps. As both these officers are well known to the major-general commanding, any recommendation from the division commander is unnecessary.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 10, 1864—2 a. m.

Capt. W. P. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

CAPTAIN: The line on the crest is being secured, and I do not expect any trouble. About 60 prisoners are reported; more are taken. It was gallantly done by the Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, under Colonel Biles, the Twentieth Indiana and Second U. S. Sharpshooters, under Lieutenant-Colonel Meikel, the whole under the supervision of Brigadier-General De Trobriand.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—The enemy says it was a mean Yankee trick.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 10, 1864—2.15 a. m.

Brigadier-General PIERCE,
Commanding Second Brigade:

GENERAL: The brigadier-general commanding directs me to inform you that the operations have been entirely successful, and that we have carried the line of pits. He desires that your pickets be watchful and on the alert to repel any attempt the enemy may make to recapture their line.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES H. LOCKWOOD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 10, 1864—2.15 a. m.

Col. ROBERT MCALLISTER,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs me to inform you that the operations have been entirely successful, and he desires that your pickets be on the alert to repel any attempt the enemy may make to recapture the pits.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES H. LOCKWOOD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 10, 1864—3.15 a. m.

Col. R. MCALLISTER,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you be ready with your pickets and reserve to support Lieutenant-Colonel Meikel if he is attacked, and also instruct your men to be very watchful and vigilant, particularly about daylight.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. LOCKWOOD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 10, 1864.

Col. ROBERT MCALLISTER,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you relieve all the troops on picket of the First Brigade which are posted to the left of the Jerusalem plank road; that the Second Regiment U. S. Sharpshooters when relieved from the front by you will be stationed in the fort located on the said plank road as an addition to the regular reserve for the pickets. You will be particular that the connections are made both on the right and left, that the works are strengthened, and that every effort that can will be made to hold the picket-line against any attack of the enemy. The greatest possible vigilance will be exercised both by the pickets and reserves; they will be constantly on the alert, as the position gained last night is most important, and it is expected the enemy will make great effort to regain it. A detail of 100 men from the Second Brigade will relieve the left of your picket-line, under the direction of the division officer of the day.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. T. LOMBARD,
Capt., Judge-Advocate and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual occurred in front of my line yesterday or last night. Two hundred men were at work yesterday on the defenses and 400 men assisting the engineers in building the new wagon road.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 10, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I think the double-track corduroy road unnecessary just now, except across the bad places where a second track should be placed alongside of the single one. We have a good many other roads and the railroad. It is very important to us now to give as much of our attention as possible to drilling the recruits and restoring the discipline and morale of the troops. I have worked my command very steadily, half their strength nearly each day, and it makes us neglect purely military matters of greatest importance. I have furnished details much greater than have been called for to get necessary work done, as the locations of these roads and changes of fortifications keep the camps disturbed and prevent drilling. Every time we change camp here we have to build new roads, open ditches, dig wells, &c., which of itself occasions much labor, and I am anxious to have the arrangements become a little settled, and so have volunteered help everywhere I could. I think, though, that double-track corduroy is not now called for.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 10, 1864—9 p. m.

General HANCOCK:

If you have not good sharpshooters General Griffin says he can send you ten that will keep every man's head down in the enemy's line in your front in the daytime. If you would like to have them please let me know.

Yours, respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 10, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I am much obliged to you. I have a regiment of Berdan Sharpshooters, and therefore do not think yours will be necessary. No man has shown his head with safety on either side to-day. We captured 90 prisoners last night. I expect there will be a row to-night again. Do not think I had 10 men killed and wounded last night, and think that my casualties may amount to 25 when I get off some which are wounded.

I am, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on the cavalry lines. The line of the Second Division in front of the Gurley house and to the right toward the Weldon railroad has been advanced about half a mile. General Kautz has sent a force along Powell's Creek to ascertain the character of the crossings below Cocke's Mill, and to capture some small parties that have been seen on his left between the mill and James River.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Cavalry.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
September 10, 1864.

SECRETARY OF WAR,
Washington:

There is a negro regiment just raised in Philadelphia now ready for service. It is respectfully asked that it be sent to this department. I have a fancy that colored troops thrive as well under me as anybody.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIGNAL DETACHMENT, TENTH CORPS,
September 10, 1864.

Captain GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Hdqrs. Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: The signal officer at the Avery house station of observation reports small working parties of the enemy at work in three places in front of the Crater. Nothing visible but the dirt which is thrown up by them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PAUL BRODIE,
First Lieut., Signal Corps, U. S. Army, in charge 10th Corps Detach.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C.,
No. 249. } *In the Field, Va., September 10, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

7. So much of Special Orders, No. 123, paragraph 4, issued from headquarters Eighteenth Army Corps, as relates to the command of Col. H. L. Abbot, commanding siege artillery, is hereby revoked, and Colonel Abbot will, as heretofore, report only to these headquarters.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIEGE TRAIN,
Broadway Landing, Va., September 10, 1864.

Capt. T. EDSON,
Ordnance Officer, Fort Monroe:

CAPTAIN: I inclose a requisition for 100 fuses for my 13-inch mortar. The last lot were very defective. It is reported to me that fifty were destroyed before one fit to use was found. Some were filled with sawdust; others very badly worm eaten. As we fire over our own men for about a mile, it is essential that we have good fuses, and I hope the new lot will be carefully selected. Please forward them by the mail boat at the earliest opportunity, as they are waited for.

Your obedient servant,

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery, Commanding.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *September 10, 1864.*

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy have fired but fifteen or twenty shots to-day and those in the forenoon; not a shot has been fired since dinner. A deserter from their battery reported that there were 15 killed and wounded by our light pieces to-day, and "he'll be damned if he'll stay there any longer." Wish they'd all come to the same wise conclusion. Please have no more 8-inch shell sent at present, but send plenty of case-shot for the light 12-pounder gun. There is no firing nights. Men are healthy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 10, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

Nothing of any importance on my line. The enemy opened a vigorous artillery fire yesterday at 12 m. This was responded to, and a sharp picket-fire was kept up all night. The Coehorns interrupted the work on their approaches, but they seem to have worked during the night.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIGADE, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 10, 1864.

Capt. CHARLES H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the Artillery Brigade during the last twenty-four hours: Ninety rounds were fired by our batteries at the enemy, he having opened nearly all his guns along our front at 1.40 p. m. yesterday. One casualty: Private Ayers, of Company C, First U. S. Artillery, attached to Light Battery D, First U. S. Artillery, severely wounded in the thigh.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieut. Col., Asst. Inspector-General and Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: It is time now to attend to the filling up of your division. Many men will go out of service during the month. Men can be had for the asking and proper attention. Regimental, brigade, and division commanders are really responsible for the number of men in their commands. Application for detail of officers of mark to go home and fill up regiments will be approved. It behooves every officer in these the last days of this wicked rebellion to be on the alert and by proper attention keep up his command. Every attention should be paid to getting back of detached men, convalescents, and keeping up of the corps to a proper number. It will hereafter, when this wicked war is over, be a proud record for an officer or soldier to have endured on and not given up or yielded for a moment his earnest desire to continue in the army to the death.

Respectfully,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Same to Brigadier-General Foster and Colonel Howell.)

HDQRS. THIRTY-NINTH REGIMENT ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 10, 1864.

Capt. CHARLES NOBLE, JR.,
Aide-de-Camp:

SIR: In answer to your communication of the 9th instant, just received, I have the honor to furnish you the following information: The name of the soldier who captured a rebel color in our last move north of the James River is Henry M. Hardenbergh, private in Company G, Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers. He was shot through the head by a rebel sharpshooter on the 28th ultimo while on duty in the trenches, killing him almost instantly.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
LEWIS T. WHIPPLE,
Captain, Commanding Regiment.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 10, 1864.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the following summary of events transpiring during the past twenty-four hours: Yesterday the enemy shelled our camps, batteries, and trenches pretty vigorously for some time. In obedience to instructions from corps headquarters, the troops of this command were turned out to cheer at 7 p. m. yesterday. Upon receipt of General Hancock's dispatch the men occupying the trenches were turned out and kept under arms. All the reserves were placed under arms at 3 o'clock this morning. A continual fire of musketry has been kept up all night with some artillery. Private Charles N. Root, Company D, Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers, died from effects of a wound made by a shell from one of our guns. No other casualties occurred. The enemy still continues to work at his defenses and trenches.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. O. PHILLIPS,
Captain, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 10, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that there have been no changes in the disposition of the troops on my line during the past twenty-four hours. The usual details for policing have been on duty. On the fronts of the First and Third Brigades fatigue parties have been engaged in strengthening and improving the parapet and traverses. A fatigue party of 400 men is at work on the redoubt in progress on the right of my line.

Respectfully, yours,
R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
September 10, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

The enemy opened on the Crow's Nest Battery with a small rifled piece from the plain in rear of their mortar battery opposite Dutch Gap. The Crow's Nest gun opened and the Howlett battery replied, when all our guns opened on it.

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 10, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major WETHERILL,
Commanding Brigade:

MAJOR: Two rebel deserters who have come into our lines this evening report that a party of twelve will probably enter our lines to-night. The general desires you to notify the pickets at Cocke's Mill to be on the alert, as they may enter at that point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. J. ASCH,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 11, 1864—noon.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

I hope it is not the intention to postpone the draft to allow time to fill up with recruiting. The men we have been getting in this way nearly all desert, and out of five reported North as having enlisted we don't get more than one effective soldier.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *September 11, 1864—7.55 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

It is not designed by this department to delay the draft a single day after the credits are made up and quota ascertained. The Provost-Marshal-General has been directed to lose no time in that work. It is represented that the first recruits were a hard lot, but that recently the volunteers are equal to any that have taken the field during the war. The local authorities have been slack in paying their bounties, and this has occasioned some delay. I would be glad if you would send me a telegram for publication, urging the necessity of immediately filling up the army by draft. The most difficulty is likely to be in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, from the desire of candidates to retain their men until after the election. We have not got a single regiment from Indiana. Morton came here specially to have the draft postponed, but was peremptorily refused. But the personal interest to retain men until after the election requires every effort to procure troops in that State, even

by draft. Illinois is much the same way. Not a regiment or even company there has been organized. A special call from you would aid the department in overcoming the local inertia and personal interests that favor delay.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 11, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have nothing of importance to report this morning. General Birney telegraphs that a deserter reports the enemy mining on his left (our right), and that troops are being moved in rear of the Crater. General Hancock reports that through a misconception of his orders by the commanding officer of the pickets the enemy was enabled last night to recapture a small portion of the line taken from him the night previous. Generals Parke and Warren report all quiet on their lines.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *September 11, 1864.*
(Received 1 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

The general commanding wishes to know whether you have received a report of the number of prisoners taken by General Hancock yesterday morning.

HORACE PORTER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 11, 1864—1.05 p. m.

Lieut. Col. HORACE PORTER, *Aide-de-Camp:*

The provost-marshal-general reports receiving 85 prisoners of war from Second Corps. These were taken on the night of the 9th and morning of the 10th, when General Hancock advanced his picket-line. I find in my dispatch of this a. m. [12.30 p. m.], to the lieutenant-general commanding, I inadvertently committed an error. It was on the morning of the 10th, and not last night, that the enemy retook a portion of the captured line, the operation being effected soon after Hancock's advance—indeed, being almost a part of it.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 11, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Has General Birney taken any steps to countermine against the enemy or to construct works in rear of where their mine is likely to terminate?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 11, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

The above refers to your dispatch this morning, giving the information from a deserter. Please send me the means of answering General Grant. I supposed the report was so vague that nothing could be done.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 11, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I send you a dispatch* from Birney, received on referring yours of 10 p. m. to him. We occupy now a second line the whole length of our line, so that no mine exploded can be of much consequence. There have been so many reports of mining by the enemy since our mine of July 30 that I have ceased to pay much attention to them unless they are accompanied by some very specific details. I will see that all the usual precautions are taken at the point on Birney's front last indicated.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 11, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from the Tenth Virginia Cavalry (Chambliss' old brigade), now Col. J. Lucius Davis commanding, came into our lines last evening. They left their post yesterday about 11 a. m. Their regiment (Tenth Virginia Cavalry) is picketing from Reams' Station to Mrs. Temple's house, on the Baxter road, running from Stony Creek to Lee's Mill, and about eight miles from Stony Creek Station. The remainder of the brigade (the Ninth and Thirteenth Virginia Regiments) are camped on Cat-tail Run or Creek, some five or six miles west of Reams' Station. They moved there about a week ago from Tabernacle Church. Mrs. Temple's house is the extreme right of the cavalry picket-line, and the Tenth Regiment is the only cavalry on the east side of the Weldon railroad. At Reams' Station there are three companies of infantry, with a captain in command of the post. No other force at Reams' Station excepting the reserve of one cavalry picket-post. Rosser's brigade of cavalry is picketing from Reams' Station westward, and Hampton's old division completes the line connecting with the right of the enemy's infantry. All forage for the cavalry in this vicinity comes from Weldon, N. C., and is brought from Stony Creek Depot by wagons. A large portion of Lee's supplies come up the same way. Informant thinks it would take but a small raiding party to capture these trains. Enemy scouting considerably in vicinity

* See p. 791.

of Lee's Mill and Black Hole Swamp. A regularly organized band of scouts, under a Lieutenant Reed, rendezvous in Black Hole Swamp. Fitzhugh Lee's division (Wickham's and Lomax's brigades) still in the Valley.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

WALTHALL STATION, *September 11, 1864—12 m.*

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Intercepted the following:

Colonel B[RENT]:

One regiment of infantry passed open space, going to our left of Cobb's.

R.,
Sergeant.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL STATION, *September 11, 1864—12.15 p. m.*

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

The following was intercepted:

Colonel B[RENT]:

The infantry of last message passed Cobb's.

R.,
Sergeant.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL STATION, *September 11, 1864—1.40 p. m.*

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

The following was intercepted:

12.45 p. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Two companies of infantry; first halted behind the cavalry in open space. They come from Chesterfield. Three wagons have also halted at same place.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL STATION, *September 11, 1864—6 p. m.*

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

All quiet this p. m. The following was just intercepted:

Colonel B[RENT]:

All quiet this p. m. No boats in sight on the river.

R.,
Sergeant.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN.

SEPTEMBER 11, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Very quiet in enemy's lines to-day. Small fatigue parties in a. m. on works reported last night.

A. C. JORDAN.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 11, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There has been no change in my lines since last report. General Mott made a better arrangement of his new picket-line on the right of the plank road during the night. Firing between sharpshooters goes on constantly at this point.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 11, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I wish to invite your attention to the following points in connection with my line:

1. I should like to know where the responsibility of the chief of artillery ends and mine begins with reference to the artillery on different points of the line of works. The question arises in several ways. For instance, it seems to me that in all the inclosed works there should be a quantity of reserve ammunition for the artillery, especially canister for the light 12s, where these pieces form part of the armament. I am not anxious to have any control, but if I have I should like to know just what it is. I think it is important to know.

2. I would suggest that a return be made from the left of the advanced work on the left of the plank road, so as to give the large square redoubt, known as Fort Crawford, a fire directly in front of the return. The present rifle-pit on the left of the fort to be leveled. A strong palisading, running from this return to the second line, would prevent the enemy from making a sudden dash on this flank and rolling up the line.

3. Now that the picket-line on the plank road is advanced there is an opportunity of putting a strong work on the crest, its natural position, either by running out a sap from the work now nearly completed or by putting up a sand-bag pit.

4. The palisading in front of the second line ought to be extended in front of Fort Hell and the work on the left of the plank road.

5. I would suggest that all the works for batteries on the rear line be constructed en barbette, the embrasures where already made to be destroyed.

6. The line from the Williams house to the plank road I think should be shortened. It seems to me that the present line will require nearly 2,000 men more than is necessary.

7. I would suggest that the batteries and redoubts be numbered or marked, and that the designation of each work be located in some conspicuous place in the work.

8. I would suggest that the garrisons of all the inclosed works be authoritatively fixed. These works, properly commanded and garrisoned, ought to hold the lines even should it be necessary to remove the troops from the rifle-pits connecting these works. I think a palisade ought also to be placed across the gorge at Fort Alexander Hays at the Strong house.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND CORPS,
September 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. J. HUNT,
Artillery Headquarters, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report no change observed or reported in the enemy's lines during the past twenty-four hours. Picket-firing is kept up constantly. A few shots were fired yesterday by the enemy's artillery and replied to promptly by the batteries bearing on the point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. M. EDGELL,
Captain, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 11, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIRST BRIGADE:

The brigadier-general commanding directs that you detail a sufficient number of regiments to furnish a force of about 800 effective men to go out at dark as a support to the line. They will be in readiness at dark, when a staff officer from these headquarters will show them the position to be occupied. They are to bivouac during the night and return at sunrise, unless otherwise ordered. It will not be necessary that they should take tents or that any unarmed men should be sent. The senior officer will take command.

I am, very respectfully,

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 11, 1864.

Col. ROBERT MCALLISTER,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: I am instructed by the brigadier-general commanding to say that you hold the forts on your line (in case of an attack) to the last extremity, no matter what becomes of the line between them.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES H. LOCKWOOD,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in my front during yesterday and last night, nothing of importance transpiring. A deserter from Thirty-third North Carolina came in last night and is now on his way to army headquarters. One thousand men were at work on the defenses at this point and 400 men assisting in building the new wagon road.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 11, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The plan proposed by you, under date of the 8th instant, for the reorganization of the Fifth Corps into three divisions, to be commanded respectively by Generals Griffin, Ayres, and Crawford, has been laid before the commanding general and is approved by him. Your plan embraces all that he desired with respect to the old First Corps, which was to include in one division the troops that composed that corps at the time of the consolidation of the corps in March last. The Pennsylvania Reserve regiments were at that time with the Fifth Corps, and the commanding general has no objection to the two regiments organized from the reserve regiments being retained in the Fifth Corps as proposed by you. You are desired to report the changes in the staff departments arising from the reorganization of your corps. When a sufficient number of recruits shall have been received to justify it the division to be made of the troops of the old First Corps can be organized into two divisions, and so with the divisions to be made up of the troops of the old Fifth Corps. The commanding general desires that you will carry the new arrangements into effect with as little delay as practicable.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 11, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual transpired during the past twenty-four hours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 11, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

A deserter from the Thirty-fourth North Carolina, Scales' brigade, has just come in. Does not know anything of Early, nor of any movement of troops. Heard a rumor of General Grant's order.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 11, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report all quiet on my front during the last twenty-four hours. Scouts report no change on the enemy's front.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 11, 1864—7 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that no movement of the enemy has been observed on the line picketed by the cavalry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. MCM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Division.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *September 11, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Bermuda Hundred:

The Philadelphia colored regiment will be ordered to your command.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *September 11, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy were perfectly quiet last night and until about 5 o'clock to-day, when they ventured to fire six shell, all of which burst among their own pickets. At the first shot we opened with one 8-inch mortar and the light 12-pounder gun, causing them to cease firing inside of forty minutes. Men are healthy; everything seems satisfactory. Am anxious to have more spherical case sent for the 12-pounder gun.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *September 11, 1864.*

Lieutenant-Colonel WHITE,
First Connecticut Artillery, Commanding Heavy Artillery with Tenth Corps, Headquarters Tenth Corps:

Company E and three 30-pounder Parrotts will start by 2 p. m. They cannot go into position before dark. Please see that Company F starts for Bermuda Hundred as soon as the regimental order specifies. Please telegraph me when they start.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *September 11, 1864.*

Lieutenant-Colonel WHITE,
First Connecticut Artillery, Headquarters Tenth Corps:

Company L will arrive at Captain Burton's battery about 2 p. m. to-morrow to relieve Company G. Please meet them and see that the officers thoroughly learn ranges, &c. Company G will use the same wagons to bring them to Captain Pride's old station. See regimental order by bearer to-morrow morning.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
September 11, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Col. H. L. ABBOT:

Three 30-pounders, with the ammunition, are all at the battery, and teams and wagons returned all safe. Your telegram regarding Company L is received.

NELSON L. WHITE,
Lieutenant-Colonel Connecticut Artillery.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *September 11, 1864.*

Captain MICHIE,
Chief Engineer, Headquarters General Butler:

It is reported to me that a heavy rifled shell from Howlett house battery penetrated the cover of the magazine at Crow's Nest to within a foot of the chamber, where it burst. I have never thought this magazine secure, and would request that at least three feet be added to the exposed end.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 11, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy kept up an almost incessant musketry and artillery fire yesterday and last night. It has now subsided. A deserter reports the rebels mining opposite our right, and that a large body of troops are massed near the Crater.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 11, 1864.

General MEADE,
Commanding:

I have done nothing to-day in the matter.* Deserters from time to time have reported the enemy as mining, and I have been prepared.

* In answer to Meade of 10 p. m., p. 785.

I think that they would aim at the old line, which I hold now by a picket. I will examine the point to-morrow with the engineer officer and sink a listening gallery.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIG., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 11, 1864.

Capt. CHARLES H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: There is nothing of importance to be reported during the last twenty-four hours. Ninety-two rounds were fired in reply to the enemy's fire and at his working parties. Two guns of Captain Clinton's battery were withdrawn from position at the Hare house to allow the engineers to change the line at that point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieut. Col., Assistant Inspector-General and Chief of Artillery.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 11, 1864.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report everything quiet this morning. A continual fire of musketry was kept up by the enemy during the night. His artillery opened upon and shelled us briskly for two hours yesterday. The officer of trenches reports: "There was nothing unusual occurred on the reserve or picket line of this brigade during the night." The officer commanding the trenches reports that the enemy were making more noise last night than usual in their front, but mostly in the vicinity of Petersburg, and removing artillery or artillery wagons. Also that there were commands given in front of our right such as "keep closed up there." The reserve occupy the old position. No offensive operations have been made from our lines. The enemy still continue to work upon their lines and the trenches report to be saps, which seem to progress slowly. No casualties have occurred.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. VORIS,
Colonel Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, Comdg. First Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 11, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that there have been no changes in the disposition of the troops of my command during the past twenty-four hours. The line of abatis in front of First Brigade has been fully completed. Working parties are engaged on the new inclosed work in progress on my right. A second line of works has been commenced on the line of the Second and Third Brigades.

I am, respectfully,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 11, 1864.

Capt. P. A. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Div., Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the work on the trenches, at present occupied by my brigade, was yesterday morning stopped by direction of the brigadier-general commanding. At night a large working party was detailed to commence the construction of an infantry parapet on the site of a line of rifle-pits in the rear once occupied by the U. S. forces and afterward abandoned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. A. OSBORN,
Colonel Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Vols., Comdg. Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 11, 1864—10 a. m.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: The reports from the picket-line show all quiet. An officer visiting the picket-line yesterday was fired upon from beyond the line by a small party that retreated immediately. The party I sent to reconnoiter Powell's Creek report that they saw no enemy and found no practicable crossing of the creek between the left of the line and the river.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 64. } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., September 11, 1864.

During the temporary absence of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer, U. S. Volunteers, the undersigned hereby assumes command of this district. All existing orders and regulations will remain in force until otherwise ordered.

EDWARD HARLAND,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 137. } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., September 11, 1864.

I. Col. Charles L. Upham, Fifteenth Connecticut Volunteers, is hereby assigned to the temporary command of the Sub-District of New Berne.

II. The Twenty-third and Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, having reported for duty to relieve the Ninth Vermont Volunteers, they are hereby assigned to the Sub-District of New Berne, and it is ordered that these regiments, under direction of the senior officer present, relieve the Ninth Vermont Volunteers of all guard and picket duty on the south side of the Trent River.

III. The companies of the Ninth Vermont Volunteers on the Trent road at Red House, on being relieved, will join their regiment without delay. The commanding officer Second Massachusetts Volunteers will send the garrison of Fort Rowan, on being relieved, to relieve the companies of the Ninth Vermont Volunteers on the Trent road.

IV. The Twenty-third New York Independent Battery will relieve the garrison of Fort Rowan, a sufficient number of men under one commanding officer remaining permanently in the battery camp as guard for the park, stables, and camp.

V. The commanding officer Second Massachusetts Artillery will detail from the garrison of Fort Totten, three commissioned officers and 100 men to relieve the companies of the Ninth Vermont Volunteers on picket at Red House.

VI. In view of the unprecedented amount of sickness in the Second Massachusetts Artillery it is ordered that for the present the commanding officer of the First North Carolina Colored Heavy Artillery send each day at guard-mount a sufficient number of men from his command to perform all the day duty at Forts Totten, Dutton, and Stevenson. These details will take their breakfasts in camp, carry their dinner with them, and on being relieved by the Second Massachusetts Artillery, at retreat, return to camp for their suppers and the night. All drills of the Second Massachusetts Artillery will for the present be suspended.

VII. The commanding officer Second Massachusetts Artillery will see that during the time the First North Carolina Colored Heavy Artillery are doing day duty in the forts under his command every effort is made to instruct them in heavy artillery drill.

VIII. As soon as the Ninth Vermont Volunteers is ready to embark, as previously ordered, the commanding officer will inform these headquarters direct.

IX. All these movements must be executed with the utmost rapidity.

* * * * * * *

XI. The Ninth Vermont Volunteers, being under marching orders, Col. E. H. Ripley, of that regiment, is relieved from duty on the general court-martial convened in Special Orders, No. 131, paragraph V, current series, from these headquarters.

* * * * * * *

By command of Brig. Gen. Edward Harland:

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
September 12, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The Santiago, one of our blockading squadron, captured a few days ago the blockade runner Advance, from Wilmington. On board of the Advance was found an Italian named Antonzini, who was brought into Hampton Roads yesterday on the Santiago. He was found double-ironed, had been condemned to death by the rebel government for treason, and was being deported to Bermuda, his punishment having been commuted. This morning Mr. Fox brought me a letter from Antonzini, offering to give information for the destruction of bridges on the Danville road. I have requested Mr. Fox to have him sent direct to you from Fortress Monroe.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 12, 1864—3.30 p. m.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

The branch of railroad running out to the Weldon road is now finished, and all supplies for the army are now moved in that way. Everything is now perfectly quiet except the usual picket-firing. The enemy seems to be mining in front of the Tenth Corps, but it causes no uneasiness. On Friday morning General Hancock moved a portion of his picket line forward, and in doing so captured 85 of the enemy's pickets.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

[SEPTEMBER 12, 1864.—For Grant to W. T. Sherman, relating to proposed operations about Petersburg and Wilmington, see Vol. XXXIX, Part II, p. 364.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 91. } *City Point, Va., September 12, 1864.*

I. The chief engineer of the Army of the Potomac and of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina will hereafter forward to these headquarters on the last day of each week a report of the engineering operations during the week in the respective armies. Maps and plans of all works constructed under their supervision will also be forwarded as soon as they can be prepared.

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III. Brig. Gen. Thomas H. Neill is hereby relieved from duty with the Eighteenth Army Corps, and will report in person to Maj. Gen. P. H. Sheridan, commanding Middle Military Division, for orders.

* * * * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

HORACE PORTER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 12, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Major-Generals Warren, Parke, and Hancock report all quiet on their lines during the past twenty-four hours. General Birney reports the enemy working steadily on a flying sap, either a covered way for their pickets or probably to gain the crest of a hill which our pickets occupy with a view of driving them away. General B[irney] has begun this morning a countermine at the Hare house, where the enemy are supposed to be mining. General Birney also reports the enemy throwing up a work on their second line just in rear of the old Crater, and that a new battery has been established at the foot of Cemetery Hill, from which they opened at 8 a. m. this morning. This last is for the purpose of firing at the trains on the railroad, which, owing to Mr. Wentz,

superintendent of construction, having failed to communicate with the chief engineer at these headquarters, has been improperly located, and is exposed for some distance to the view of the enemy, who has established batteries from which he fires at all passing trains. No damage has yet been done, but much annoyance to passers-by and the camps in the vicinity.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 12, 1864.*

General MEADE:

I will direct Major Wentz to commence relaying the railroad, so as to take it round out of sight of the enemy.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 12, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from the Thirty-fourth North Carolina Regiment, Scales' brigade, Wilcox's division, has just been forwarded from the headquarters of the Ninth Army Corps. He came into our lines about dark last evening. His brigade (Scales') lies directly in front of the lead-works, and about 300 yards west of the Weldon railroad. Wilcox's division is on extreme right of the line, and the Weldon railroad runs through it, a little to the left of its center. Informant states that they are extending the line of works still farther to the right in a westerly direction. He thinks it is about half a mile from the railroad to the extreme right of the infantry line. They throw out a very heavy skirmish line every day in front of Wilcox's division. Cut rations down last week one-fourth; issue regularly every other day. Informant has been in the regiment but a short time and has little information; knows nothing of the return of any of the force in the Valley.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

WALTHALL STATION, *September 12, 1864—9.30 a. m.*

Major FISHER:

All quiet this a. m. A party of fourteen men is at work strengthening Fort Clifton.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL STATION, *September 12, 1864—6 p. m.*

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

The following have been intercepted:

11.30 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:
A battery of artillery drilling in open space.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

2 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:
At 1.20 p. m. the enemy commenced strengthening his works in open space; only one embrasure seen.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 12, 1864—6 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

All quiet this p. m. Party still at work on Fort Clifton. The following messages have been intercepted to-day:

9.30 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:
One regiment of cavalry passed open space to our right of Cobb's, going toward Point of Rocks. One battery and two regiments of infantry drilling in open space to the left of Cobb's. No boats visible in the river.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

11.15 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:
Two boats in the river—one above pontoon and one off Point of Rocks. Seven wagons crossed pontoon, going toward Prince George.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

4.15 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:
Seventeen wagons passed open space, going toward enemy's front in Chesterfield.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

5.45 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:
All quiet this p. m. Gun-boat above Point of Rocks.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

One message at 5 p. m. I could not read on account of the wind shaking the glass.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

SEPTEMBER 12, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Parties working on fortifications all day. No movements noticed.

A. C. JORDAN.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 12, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

The enemy are building a new line of works north-northwest from station running from edge of woods toward their front line. No movement observed.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 247. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *September 12, 1864.*

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6. The extension of the City Point and Petersburg Railroad having been completed, depots of supplies along the line of the road will be established as follows: One where the railroad crosses the plank road, to be known as Hancock's Station; one near the Aiken house, to be known as Parke's Station, and one near the Weldon railroad, to be known as Warren's Station. The supplies for the Second Corps, and for the present for the Second Division, Cavalry Corps, will be drawn from Hancock's Station; the supplies for the Ninth Corps, from Parke's Station, and the supplies for the Fifth Corps from Warren's Station. The wagons of the Second, Fifth, and Ninth Corps, usually appropriated to the transportation of subsistence stores, as well as any other wagons not needed for the transportation of supplies from the depots to be established, will be parked at such point east of the plank road as may be selected by the chief quartermaster of this army. When wagons of the Second Cavalry Division are not required for the transportation of supplies they will be parked in the vicinity of Hancock's Station. The foregoing arrangements will go into effect on Wednesday, the 14th instant.

* * * * * * *

8. Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham, commanding Engineer Brigade, will proceed to make an inspection of the depot under his charge, located near the Navy-Yard, Washington, D. C., and having completed the same will return to City Point.

* * * * * * *

10. The redoubts of the line of intrenchments will be named after the officers who have fallen during the present campaign, and corps commanders are desired to send in, with as little delay as practicable, their recommendations for the names of the redoubts along their lines, according to the foregoing requirements.

* * * * * * *

13. Col. E. Schriver, inspector-general, assisted by the officers of his department, will at once proceed to make an inspection of the several commands composing this army, with a view of ascertaining whether the state of the service will not admit of the return to duty of officers

and men now reported as on special, extra, or daily duty, or on detached service within this army, and in cases where, in the opinion of the inspector-general, the services of officers and men now employed on special and detached duty can be dispensed with in that capacity, he will, in the name of the commanding general, order such officers and men to duty with their respective commands. Corps and other independent commanders will afford the officers of the inspector's department such facilities as they may require to enable them thoroughly to discharge the duty herein indicated, and a report will be made of the number of officers and men returned to duty under this order.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 12, 1864—9 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There has been no change in the disposition of my troops or lines since last report. Fatigue parties to the number of 2,700 men are at work this morning on the front and rear lines.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 508. } *September 12, 1864.*

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3. Lieut. Col. William Wilson, Eighty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, is hereby relieved from the command of the Consolidated Brigade of this division, a senior officer of that brigade having returned to duty with his regiment.

4. Lieut. Col. James E. McGee, Sixty-ninth New York Volunteers, is hereby assigned to the temporary command of the Consolidated Brigade.

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By order of Brigadier-General Miles:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 12, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. DE TROBRIAND,
Commanding First Brigade:

GENERAL: The brigadier-general commanding directs me to inform you that a party of fifteen or twenty men, armed with telescope rifles, from the Fifth Army Corps, have been ordered to report to you. He directs that you place them in and about Fort Hell, where they can have the best position to annoy the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. LOCKWOOD,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 12, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. J. HUNT,
Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report no change observed or reported in the enemy's lines during the past twenty-four hours. Only two or three shots exchanged by the artillery. The picket-firing constant.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
F. M. EDGELL,
Captain, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 12, 1864. (Received 9.30 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance occurred in my front yesterday or during the night. The new railroad has been completed to this point and a locomotive came up yesterday.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 35. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 12, 1864.

By authority from headquarters Army of the Potomac the following reorganization of the corps is ordered and will be carried into effect immediately:

I. The Fourth Division, Fifth Army Corps, is discontinued.

II. The following regiments, belonging originally to the old First Army Corps, and now serving with the First and Second Divisions, are transferred to the Third Division: Fifty-sixth, One hundred and twenty-first, One hundred and forty-second, One hundred and forty-third, One hundred and forty-ninth, and One hundred and fiftieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and Seventy-sixth, Ninety-fifth, and One hundred and forty-seventh New York Volunteers.

III. The One hundred and ninetieth and One hundred and ninety-first Regiments Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers are transferred to the Second Division.

IV. The prospect of filling up the corps renders it desirable to retain the organization of three brigades to a division, and each division commander will arrange his brigades as he may think best.

V. The details for provost guards, ambulance corps, quartermaster and commissary departments, &c., will at once be made to conform to the new organization, and all detached officers and men who may be rendered supernumerary by these changes will at once rejoin their commands, and where such officers and enlisted men have been detached in orders from these headquarters, a report will be made to that effect, giving the names of the officers and men detached, in order that they may be properly relieved in orders. The reductions in transportation and ambulances will be carried into effect under the direction of the acting chief quartermaster and chief ambulance officer.

VI. Division commanders are requested to send in as speedily as possible a report showing the organization and designation of their brigades.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 12, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report quiet on my front during the last twenty-four hours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

I send you a copy of a statement* of deserters from the Tenth Virginia Cavalry. The major-general commanding thinks that a strong scouting force thrown out rapidly might capture and effectually disperse for a time the scouting parties of the enemy infesting the parts of the country indicated in the statement.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on the lines of the Second Division since last report. During the night a few shots were fired by the enemy on the pickets in front of the Gurley house. This occurs every night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 12, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have received the following dispatch from Deep Bottom:

Rebels say on this line that they attacked us at Reams' Station last night and were badly whipped.

Have you any information of it? Please answer.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

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* See Babcock to Humphreys, September 11, p. 785.

CITY POINT, *September 12, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

The lieutenant-general commanding desires me to say that we have no troops at Reams' Station. Reports from corps commanders this morning are that all is quiet.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing of any importance on my line. The enemy are working on four flying saps steadily. I presume they are for pickets, and probably to gain the crest of the hill and drive my pickets away. Will commence this morning on a countermine at the Hare house, pushing forward the old work. The enemy are throwing up a work on their second line, just in rear of the Crater. There is also new rebel battery on the foot of Cemetery Hill. The work is well covered by woods. It opened at 7.45 this morning. Large quantities of timber are being hauled from Petersburg toward Weldon road.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SIGNAL DETACHMENT, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 12, 1864.

Captain GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Hdqrs. Tenth Army Corps,
Before Petersburg, Va.:

CAPTAIN: Signal officer at Avery house reports the enemy throwing up a work on their second line and just in rear of the Crater. The work will be about large enough for two guns. Signal officer at Friend's house reports a new rebel battery on the foot of Cemetery Hill. The work is well covered by woods. It opened at 7.45 this a. m. and fired five or six shots. Large quantities of timber are being hauled from Petersburg toward Weldon road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PAUL BRODIE,
First Lieutenant, Chief Signal Officer, Tenth Corps.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *September 12, 1864.*

Lieutenant-Colonel WHITE,
First Connecticut Artillery, Comdg. Siege Batteries,
Tenth Corps, Headquarters Tenth Corps:

Company K will be at Captain Burton's battery about 2 p. m. to-morrow to relieve Company D. Please do the same that you did to-day for Captain Pride for this company.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIG., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 12, 1864.

Capt. CHARLES H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: There is nothing of importance to report this morning. Three 20-pounder Parrotts were withdrawn from the battery on the right, the Appomattox, and replaced by three 30-pounder Parrotts. Thirty-three rounds were fired at the enemy, twenty-five of which were Coehorn mortar shells at the enemy's workmen in front of the Crater.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieut. Col., Assistant Inspector-General and Chief of Artillery.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 117. } *Before Petersburg, Va., September 12, 1864.*

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II. Col. Joseph R. Hawley, Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, having been ordered to Connecticut in charge of the enlisted men of the Sixth and Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, whose term of enlistment has expired, Col. Joseph C. Abbott, Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers, will assume command of the Second Brigade of this division, turning over the command of his regiment to the officer next in rank.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 12, 1864.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report all quiet this morning. A continual fire of musketry was kept up by the enemy last night. No further developments have been made as to the intentions of the enemy in advancing trenches or saps before his obstructions. They are steadily moving toward our line. The trenches are deep. The police of the reserve camp and the trenches is good and is being improved. The officer of the trenches reports:

All quiet on the line during the night. At 10 o'clock we received orders from the division commander of the day to cease firing on the picket-line and not resume it unless the enemy advanced.

No casualties have occurred in the past twenty-four hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. VORIS,
Colonel Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, Comdg. First Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 12, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. V. KAUTZ, *Commanding Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: The accompanying communication * is sent for your information. Brigadier-General Gregg directs me to say that it is much

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*See Babcock to Humphreys, September 11, p. 785.

desired that, if practicable, the nests of guerrillas in front of your line should be dispersed. This might possibly be accomplished by sending out a strong scouting party at night, well to the front of your line, toward Disputanta and below, and thence around to Prince George Court-House. If you think there is any prospect of capturing any parties by such a movement it should be made. If you require any additional troops they will be furnished from the Second Division. An effort will be made to-night by the Second Division to entrap dismounted rebels who lurk about its line. A party will be sent to Lee's Mill.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 13, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

My dispatch to you on the subject of enforcing the draft was suggested by reading Secretary Seward's Auburn speech, where he intimates that volunteers were coming in so rapidly that there would be no necessity for a draft, and your dispatch stating that volunteers were coming in at the rate of 5,000 per day. We ought to have the whole number of men called for by the President in the shortest possible time. A draft is soon over, and ceases to hurt after it is made. The agony of suspense is worse upon the public than the measure itself. Prompt action in filling our armies will have more effect upon the enemy than a victory over them. They profess to believe, and make their men believe, there is such a party North in favor of recognizing Southern independence that the draft cannot be enforced. Let them be undeceived. Deserters come into our lines daily, who tell us that the men are nearly universally tired of war, and that desertions would be much more frequent but they believe peace will be negotiated after the fall elections. The enforcement of the draft and prompt filling up of our armies will save the shedding of blood to an immense degree.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 13, 1864—10.30 a. m.*
(Received 12.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

General Cutler has been relieved from duty with the Army of the Potomac by the consolidation of his division with other divisions of his corps, and ordered to report by letter to the Adjutant-General for orders. I would like to have the general ordered to visit the different recruiting rendezvous in the Eastern and Middle States for the purpose of pushing forward recruits, convalescents, and all others whose duties are at the front.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 92. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES, *City Point, Va., September 13, 1864.*

II. Brig. Gen. L. Cutler is hereby relieved from duty with the Army of the Potomac, in consequence of the consolidation of his division with another division. He will proceed to Washington, D. C., and there report in person to the Adjutant-General of the Army for orders.

Lieuts. William M. Ransom and Thomas W. Miller, personal aides, have permission to accompany him.

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By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

W. L. DUFF,
Lieut. Col., Asst. Insp. Gen. and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

CITY POINT, *September 13, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Major Wentz says that before laying the railroad he tried to see the chief engineer, but was told that he was sick. He then stated to the officer of whom he inquired the object of his call. He was replied to, that the work of locating the road had been given to another engineer. He made two efforts to get to see this latter; but failing he commenced his work, supposing the engineer would come along if it was not laid to suit. He now proposes to sink the road five feet where it is in view of the rebel batteries, throwing all the earth toward the enemy. This will give an embankment of eleven feet and cut of five. I have directed him to go on with the work.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 13, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have nothing of consequence to report this morning. Your dispatch in reference to Major Wentz has been referred to Major Michler, acting chief engineer, who replies that no one about these headquarters can be found who ever knew of any visit of Major Wentz; that Major Duane, though unwell, was never so sick that he could not see any one on business, and, although it is not intended to impugn Major Wentz's statement, yet there is no doubt that had proper effort been made by him to see either Major Duane or myself, or had a written or telegraphic communication been made to us, the very serious mistake which has been made in the location of the road could have been avoided, as the only condition I had to make was that the road should be laid out of sight and beyond the range of the enemy's batteries. The plan proposed and directed to be executed by you of sinking the road, can be tried, but I fear the noise of the locomotive and cars and the knowledge the enemy now have of the location of the road will prevent its undisturbed use, though I do not know any interruption is to be anticipated.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 13, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from the Seventh North Carolina, Lane's brigade, of Wilcox's division, came into the lines of the Fifth Army Corps yesterday; and two from the Sixteenth Virginia, of Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division, came into the lines of General Mott's division, Second Army Corps, this morning about daylight. They are all from A. P. Hill's corps, and bring no late information. They all agree to the fact that about a week ago the different brigades of Mahone's and Wilcox's divisions moved to the right, each about the distance occupied by two brigades; did not know what this movement was for. Lane's brigade occupies the extreme right of the line. Two negroes that left Petersburg last Saturday night state that a brigade of infantry and some cavalry moved out on the South Side Railroad about three weeks ago to a station called ———, ten miles from Petersburg.

NOTE.—From the best of our judgment they mean Sutherland's Station. They also state that no troops have been moved back or forth over the Appomattox River for the last two weeks.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. C. BABCOCK.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 13, 1864.

Major FISHER:

All quiet this a. m. At 8.30 a train of twenty wagons passed open space to our left of Fort Clifton, going toward enemy's left.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 13, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

The enemy's camp in woods directly in front of this station has disappeared, with the exception of two or three tents, and fewer tents appear in the intrenchments from the Gregory Chimneys to the lead-works. The force behind intrenchments from the lead-works to the fort west of the Weldon railroad is apparently unchanged. Enemy continues active on works at many points. They are constructing a work for a battery upon their rear line and on Cemetery Hill.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 13, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No change in my lines since last report, except those going on under charge of the engineer department from headquarters.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 13, 1864.

Commanders are requested to give the circular of the 11th instant, in relation to captured colors, as wide a circulation as possible, embracing in their reports those regiments which may have gone out of service. It should be particularly stated in each case whether the colors have been turned in. Soldiers who have captured colors and have failed to turn them in, as required by existing orders, will lose the reward to be given to those who have turned in colors. Care should be taken to fix the proper credit in all cases, so that the corps may get its due honor, individuals their proper reward, and no questions be asked hereafter as to the justice of the award.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

WM. P. WILSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 13, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. E. MCGEE,
Commanding Consolidated Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you have your brigade in readiness to move out in support of the line this evening. They will march to the same position which they occupied on Saturday last. Tents need not be struck and unarmed men will not be taken along. The brigade will be formed and in readiness to move at dusk, when a staff officer from these headquarters will be present and conduct them to the place indicated. They will return at sunrise unless otherwise ordered.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that all was quiet in my front during yesterday and last night. Very sharp picket-firing was heard nearly all night in front of the troops to the right of our line. Eight hundred men were at work yesterday upon the fortifications and 400 men upon the new wagon road.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 13, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report all quiet on my front during the last twenty-four hours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 39. } HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS, *Near Blick's Station, Va., September 13, 1864.*

The following changes in the designations of the divisions of the corps are hereby announced: The Third Division, Brig. Gen. O. B. Willcox commanding, will be known as the First Division; the Fourth Division, Brig. Gen. Edward Ferrero commanding, will be known as the Third Division.

By command of Maj. Gen. John G. Parke:

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 172. } HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS, *Near Blick's Station, Va., September 13, 1864.*

1. By virtue of authority from headquarters Army of the Potomac, leave of absence for fifteen days is hereby granted Brig. Gen. O. B. Willcox, commanding Third Division, Ninth Army Corps, with permission to apply for an extension of five days if exigencies of the service will justify such application.

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By command of Maj. Gen. John G. Parke:

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Weldon Railroad, Va., September 13, 1864.

Capt. JOHN C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: The following is the list of officers in this division deemed worthy of being recommended for a brevet for conspicuous services as called for by the order of the 11th instant:

Capt. Gilbert H. McKibbin, assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Volunteers—for conspicuous bravery at all times during the battle of the Wilderness, and particularly in determining the enemy's position by a personal reconnaissance May 6, 1864; for conspicuous bravery at the battle of Spotsylvania, May 12, 1864; also at Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864, and Petersburg, June 18, 1864.

Col. John I. Curtin, Forty-fifth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers—for conspicuous services at the battle of Spotsylvania, May 12, 1864; Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864; Petersburg, June 17 and 18, 1864.

Lieut. Col. Henry Pleasants, Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers—for the successful management of the mine which was sprung on the 30th of July in front of the Ninth Army Corps.

Capt. Theodore Gregg, Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers—for his gallantry and good efforts in rallying the men to defend the crater formed by the explosion of the mine on the 30th of July, and his courage and daring in three personal encounters with rebel officers, each time killing his antagonist.

Capt. James B. Smith, Thirty-sixth Massachusetts Volunteers, in the charge of the First Brigade on the rebel works on the morning of 17th of June, when he was in command of his regiment; but for his bravery and good judgment on that occasion the charge would not have been successful.

Lieut. Col. William F. Draper, commanding Thirty-sixth Massachusetts Volunteers, in the battle of the Wilderness, was remarkably brave,

and after being severely wounded still remained and fought with his regiment until faint from the loss of blood and obliged to be taken from the field.

Capt. Peleg E. Peckham, of the Seventh Rhode Island Volunteers, acting assistant adjutant-general of First Brigade, Second Division, Ninth Army Corps—for his repeated acts of gallantry and bravery displayed on every field and in all the engagements in which he has participated, especially that of the 18th of May, at Spotsylvania Court-House, where his regiment owes much to him for its credit on that occasion; and also on the 30th of July in rallying a portion of his brigade and conducting them in their successive charges.

Capt. Henry R. Mighels, assistant adjutant-general—for his great efforts in getting the men forward in the charge of the 18th of June, in which he was severely wounded.

Capt. E. T. Raymond, Thirty-sixth Massachusetts Volunteers—for good service rendered on all occasions, always showing coolness and courage and putting forth unequaled efforts in every engagement to the success of the troops which might be under his direction, and for escaping from the enemy August 19, 1864, when he accidentally rode into their lines in obedience to orders.

I would also make mention of Lieut. Col. Percy Daniels, Seventh Rhode Island Volunteers, who has taken a very active part all through the campaign, and conducted himself nobly in all the engagements. On that of the 30th his regiment was not engaged at all, but he voluntarily went to the front and the fields in face of the enemy's fire and into the crater several times during the day, encouraging both men and officers to their duty.

First Lieut. Charles E. Frost, Company E, Eleventh New Hampshire Volunteers, on the morning of the 17th of June, 1864, in the charge near the Shands house, in advance of his regiment, with a few men demanded the surrender of a party of the [enemy], outnumbering him five to one, lying in a rifle-pit, and captured about 15. He also participated in bringing away a gun and six battery horses attached to the caisson.

First Lieut. George Hicks, Company F, Seventeenth Vermont Volunteers, on the morning of the 17th of June, 1864, in the charge near the Shands house, distinguished himself by capturing a battle-flag of the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment.

Second Lieut. John E. Cram, Company B, Eleventh New Hampshire Volunteers, in the battle of Spotsylvania Court-House, distinguished himself by seizing and securing the colors of his own regiment under a heavy fire, after both color-bearers had been severely wounded and disabled, and was himself severely wounded while carrying them to the rear. He has not yet recovered.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 9TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 49. } *Aiken's House, Va., September 13, 1864.*

The commanding general, having received a short leave of absence, hereby turns over the command of this division to Brig. Gen. John F. Hartranft, temporarily.

By command of Brigadier-General Willcox:

[WM. V. RICHARDS,]
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 13, 1864—10 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on the line of the Second Division since last report. Last night strong scouting parties were sent to Lee's Mill and toward Wood's Shop. No enemy discovered at the former place. Beyond Wood's Shop and toward Reams' Station fires were seen which indicated the camp of a regiment of cavalry. I had dismounted men concealed well in front of my line; but none of the enemy approached, as on previous nights. General Kautz was instructed to send out a strong scouting party toward Disputanta and Union, and thence around to Prince George. No report received of the operations of this party. General Kautz's line is much annoyed by dismounted guerrillas at night. These men lurk in the thickets for the purpose of stealing horses. Night before last a small reserve near Davenport Church was surprised by a dismounted party of the enemy; six horses were stolen and one man killed. Increased precautions are being taken on that portion of General Kautz's line to prevent surprises and to destroy these small parties of the enemy.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Second Division.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
September 13, 1864.

Col. G. A. KENSEL,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports as follows:

SEPTEMBER 13—8.30 p. m.

Captain CLUM:

A train of five cars, loaded with troops, just passed the Junction, going toward Petersburg.

SIMONS,
Lieutenant, Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
September 13, 1864.

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Train:

Company D left the point of woods near Captain Burton's battery at 6 o'clock this p. m. Captain Ager, with Company K, was detained by the breaking down of a wagon, and did not reach here until 4 o'clock. His command are safely placed in their batteries, with full instructions as to range. No ordnance telegram received to-day.

NELSON L. WHITE,
Lieutenant-Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

Nothing of importance on my line during past twenty-four hours.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 124. } *Before Petersburg, Va., September 13, 1864.*

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6. Col. J. B. Howell, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, is relieved from command of the Third Division, and Col. F. B. Pond, Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, is temporarily assigned to that command.

By command of Major-General Birney:

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIG., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 13, 1864.

Capt. CHARLES H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the Artillery Brigade during the last twenty-four hours: Fifty-nine Coehorn mortar shells were fired at the enemy's working parties at the Crater. Private Henry Fox, of Battery H, Third New York Artillery, was severely wounded in the side. There is nothing further worthy of note.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieut. Col., Asst. Inspector-General and Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The inspection reports show that the orders from these headquarters, as to returning to their companies all men improperly employed as hostlers, servants, guards, clerks, cooks, &c., have not been obeyed, apparently receiving no attention. Will you not report as to this matter, and hold the guilty officers to a strict accountability? All absentees should be traced, and in proper case applied for. The inspection reports of your division show also many improper details and employment of enlisted men. A list will be furnished you by the assistant adjutant-general. The orders also call for arming of all detailed men, so that on a march or during a battle they can do service; also that they turn out properly equipped at all inspections; and trusts that the next inspection report will show that the large list of absentees has been diminished by active and constant application and the number of effective men increased. Should regimental commanders

wish men who have been detailed for a long time from their regiments returned, and others less able for field service substituted, their application will receive favorable attention.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Same to Brigadier-General Foster.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 118. } *Before Petersburg, Va., September 13, 1864.*

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VII. Col. F. B. Pond, Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, having been assigned to the command of the Third Division of this corps by Special Orders, No. 124, paragraph 6, headquarters Tenth Army Corps, Col. A. C. Voris, Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, will assume command of the First Brigade of this division, turning over the command of his regiment to the officer next in rank.

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By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 13, 1864—9.15 p. m.

I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to request that you will take immediate measures to put an end to the firing on the lines so far as it is practicable. It is reported that the corps officer of the day gave orders to open fire whenever the enemy fired upon our lines. By so doing that officer transcended his authority, and you will immediately notify the officers of your command that they receive no orders to open fire except through the proper channels, and obey none emanating from such a source.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 13, 1864.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report everything quiet this morning except a desultory fire of musketry from the enemy, which has kept up all the past night. The reserves of this command remain in the same position, as also do the lines of battle. The officer of the trenches reports there has been no casualties upon the line during the last night. The enemy have made no observable movements or changes. Private Henry Hemmell, Company B, Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers, was seriously wounded in the hand yesterday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS B. POND,
Colonel Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, Comdg. First Brigade.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 13, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that no changes have taken place in the disposition of the troops on my front during the past twenty-four hours. Fatigue parties, comprising all available men of the division, are employed on the inclosed work on my right, and on the second line on the front of the Second and Third Brigades. The entire line of trenches are in good condition as regards policing.

Very respectfully,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 139. } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., September 13, 1864.

1. As soon as the Ninth Vermont Volunteers is ready to go the command will embark without further orders and proceed to Virginia, as previously ordered.

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By command of Brig. Gen. Edward Harland:

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CHIEF OF ARTILLERY, 18TH ARMY CORPS,
September 13, 1864.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Headquarters Eighteenth Army Corps:

SIR: I respectfully request that I may be relieved from duty as chief of artillery Eighteenth Corps, and ordered to join my regiment. My position is so indistinctly defined that it is impossible for me to perform the duties pertaining to that position with justice to myself or satisfaction to the corps commander. For the information of the corps commander, I have the honor to report that, in addition to the light batteries of the corps, there are in position on the front occupied by the corps some forty-one guns and mortars, manned by companies of the First Connecticut Artillery and a company of the Thirteenth New York Artillery. On the arrival of the corps at this place the officers in charge of those batteries failed to report to me or in any way recognize me. On inquiry, it was found that up to the time of the arrival of the Eighteenth Corps the batteries in position (heavy batteries) had been considered as independent of the corps commander, and subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of Col. H. L. Abbot, First Connecticut Artillery, the corps commander having a kind of delegated authority to direct the batteries to open fire in case of necessity. In order that these battery commanders might understand their true position Special Orders, No. 123, headquarters Eighteenth Army Corps, September 2, was issued. I understand that Colonel Abbot has protested to department headquarters against this order as depriving him of certain rights and privileges naturally belonging to him. At all events, an order has just been received from department headquarters (Special Orders, No. 249, September 10) which revokes the order from corps headquarters so far as relates to Colonel Abbot's command, and virtually removes the batteries

above referred to from the jurisdiction of the corps commander. As chief of artillery of the corps I am held responsible by the corps commander for the condition and efficiency of all the artillery pertaining to the corps, which must include, of course, those batteries in position on the front occupied by the corps, while at the same time those batteries are declared independent of the corps and officers of the corps. Colonel Abbot very kindly allows a major of his regiment to remain at these headquarters, to whom written instructions have been given (see A). In these instructions I am permitted to give certain orders, but the field officer is distinctly informed that my authority over him and his command is limited. As my limited authority is conceded as a favor, not recognized as a right, I shall positively decline giving any instructions until the question of jurisdiction is settled. In view of the position in which I am placed, I respectfully request that I may be relieved from my present duty and ordered to my regiment.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PIPER,
Colonel Tenth New York Artillery, Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 13, 1864.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: Your communication relative to breaking up the guerrilla parties of the enemy was received last evening, and I have been investigating the best means of opposing them. Colonel West, who has had a great deal of experience in this kind of warfare on the Peninsula, says there is but one way, and that is to oppose dismounted parties against them. The enemy has no established camp that can be surprised or broken up. They scatter through the country, visiting farmhouses for subsistence, and meeting at stated periods for an expedition, never going in a large force and always dispersing when attacked. I have been disposing ambuscades in front of the picket-line, but as yet only with partial success. The line is so extended that the men are on post every other night, giving me no extra force to dispose of to any great extent. Scouting the country would have no other result than to familiarize the officers and men with the country and enable them to operate in the night by ambuscades, &c. The places to ambuscade and watch for the enemy are the various crossings of the Blackwater and its branches. Black Hole Swamp I understand to be the same as Jones' Hole Swamp on the map. Mrs. Temple's I understand to be just beyond the crossing of Warwick Swamp, on the road from Baxter's Mill to the plank road. By ambuscading the crossings of the branches of the Blackwater beyond the picket-line by parties of twenty or thirty dismounted men I think will be the best course to pursue. Another plan would be to take the entire picket force and move out on all the various roads on a fixed day, reconnoitering and patrolling all the roads at one time; it might result in the capture of a portion and disconcerting the majority. I do not think, however, that these scouts have any camp this side of the plank road. I shall continue the use of dismounted men for the present as the only practical means of anticipating the enemy with my present force.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 14, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington:

I will leave here to-morrow morning for the Shenandoah Valley to see Sheridan. Will not pass through Washington either going or coming unless it is the wish of the President or Secretary of War I should do so. Everything is very quiet here, and all indications are that it will remain so until I take the offensive.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *September 14, 1864—10 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

If anything should require your presence here notice will be given. At present there is no reason to change your plans.

E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 14, 1864—10.30 a. m. (Received 10.45 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Reports from corps commanders indicate nothing extraordinary to report this morning. Major-General Birney states that the recent advance of Hancock's picket-line has drawn on his line incessant picket-firing, increasing his casualties, and that he has taken measures to stop it. There is at present sharp cannonading going on in Birney's front, which I presume to be the measure he indicated he would take. A special report of the cause has been called for.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *September 14, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

What is the heavy firing now heard about?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 14, 1864—11.10 a. m. (Received 11.15 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

In reply to your telegram, just received, I send you a dispatch* from Birney, received simultaneously, which confirms the view I took in my last dispatch. Major-General Birney has been directed to make a special report so soon as his present experiment is over as to the result, and hereafter not to open his batteries under similar circumstances without first referring to these headquarters, as I am somewhat doubtful of the efficacy of his plan of stopping picket-firing, and the expenditure of ammunition is becoming a question of some importance.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* See Birney to Humphreys, received 11 a. m., p. 829.

CITY POINT, *September 14, 1864—3 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

I shall leave here to-morrow morning for General Sheridan's headquarters. Will be gone five days. General Butler also leaves to-day to be absent a few days. You will, therefore, assume command of all the forces operating in this field if you find it necessary.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 14, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE:

General Butler reports that the enemy in his front show but little more within their intrenchments than our picket-line. May it not be the enemy are massing everything on their right for an attack? I think it would be well to push reconnaissances, both west and south from our extreme left, to ascertain if any movements are in contemplation. If you have occasion to telegraph me after I start in the morning, dispatches directed to Harper's Ferry will reach me. I shall have a cipher operator along.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 14, 1864—8.45 p. m. (Received 9 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your dispatch in relation to the thinning of the enemy's line in front of General Butler has been received. The signal officers have reported something of the same kind on my front in the vicinity of the plank road, also the movements of small bodies of the enemy near the lead-works. I will direct Warren to send a reconnaissance out in the morning in a westerly direction, sending with him two regiments of cavalry. Our cavalry is out so far to the south that any advance meets the enemy at once, and they have their cavalry so strongly posted that a mere reconnaissance can not force them back; besides our cavalry is so far in this direction that we ought to have ample warning if our pickets are vigilant. I do not think the enemy will be likely to attack our immediate left or the rear of it, but may, perhaps, endeavor to threaten still farther round in the direction of Prince George Court-House, so as to try and draw us away from our intrenched lines. This would be running great risk on their part unless they have a very large force. I will be vigilant and keep a sharp lookout.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *September 14, 1864.*

General MEADE:

Telegraph me at Fort Monroe the result of Warren's reconnaissance to-morrow if known by 3 p. m.; if not known until a later hour telegraph to Baltimore.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., September 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. M. R. PATRICK,
Provost-Marshal-General,
Armies operating against Richmond, City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: Please give the necessary directions to your assistants to hereafter send all new troops arriving at this point to Bermuda Hundred, Va., with instructions to report to Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler for orders.

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By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

W. L. DUFF,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Asst. Insp. Gen., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 14, 1864—9 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Enemy's force in intrenchments weakened during the night from point of woods in our front as far to our right as can be seen from this point; lines unchanged on our left. At 8.40 200 infantry came from woods west of the fort beyond the Weldon railroad and moved southward.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 14, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major FISHER, *Chief Signal Officer:*

The following was intercepted:

Colonel B[RENT]:

Six six-horse wagons passed open space on Bermuda Hundred road. Six pieces of artillery drilling in open space. One gun-boat above pontoon.

R.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL'S SIGNAL STATION,
September 14, 1864—11 a. m.

Major FISHER, *Chief Signal Officer:*

The following was intercepted; the first part of message was lost:

—— passed open space near Battery 5, going toward front.

J. A. S.,
At C.

12.30.

C. C. CROW,
At B.:

You will report for duty without delay.

B. F.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch from the plank road station is respectfully forwarded:

A column of infantry, numbering about 3,000, formed from the camps behind works in vicinity of large fort west of Weldon railroad and moved westward on the road leading from the south side of the large fort, Squirrel Level road. Twenty minutes later a body of 800 infantry disappeared on same road. Column passed between 11 a. m. and 30 a. m.

(Means, no doubt, between 11 a. m. and 11.30 a. m.)

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 14, 1864—1 p. m.

Captain TAYLOR,
Signal Officer:

A column of infantry numbering about 2,000 came from woods in rear of railroad and a little to the left of the lead-works, moved to our left as far as large fort, halted, and are now resting in line in rear of their line of works.

NEEL,
Captain and Signal Officer.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 14, 1864—1 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

The following was intercepted:

Colonel B[RENT]:

The enemy is making winter quarters at Point of Rocks.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

5.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Twelve wagons passed Cobb's going toward enemy's front in Chesterfield. One large steamer just came up the river. Two gun-boats above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 14, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

The infantry reported halted in line of works in vicinity of large fort west of Weldon railroad have returned to woods from whence they came. A train of eight wagons moved to our left.

H. W. FULTON.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch from the plank road station is respectfully forwarded:

About 800 infantry at 3.30 p. m. moved from the large fort in vicinity of Weldon railroad and disappeared in woods moving toward our picket-line. All quiet.

The enemy's signal officers report minor movements on our part in the vicinity of the Appomattox. They report our force making winter quarters at Point of Rocks.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch just received from the plank road station:

4.40 P. M.

A column of infantry and cavalry moved westward on road leading from large fort, Squirrel Level road. It appeared coming from the left (our left) on line of Weldon railroad; were twelve minutes in passing. Another column of infantry appeared from woods in vicinity of large fort and followed the first column; this was ten minutes in passing. The dust prevents a correct estimate of their numbers. They commenced moving about 3.15 p. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 14, 1864—6.15 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

All quiet this p. m.; enemy still working on Fort Clifton. What shall I do with this extra horse? I need it here, as but three of my men are mounted. If I keep it, will you please give me an order on Lieutenant Capron for forage?

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

SEPTEMBER 14, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

No movement of the enemy noticed to-day. Small details on new works all day. A good many loads of poles moved into town from the left this p. m., coming toward the front in about a line between Petersburg and this station. Have not been able to see roads west of city since 12 this m. on account of smoke.

A. C. JORDAN.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 304. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, September 14, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

15. First Lieut. R. P. Strong, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, is hereby relieved from duty at the Signal Camp of Instruction, Georgetown, D. C., and will report in person without delay to the chief signal officer, Army of the Potomac, for duty.

16. Capt. G. S. Dana, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, is hereby relieved from duty with the signal detachment, Army of the Potomac, and will report in person without delay to the chief signal officer, headquarters Army of the Ohio, in the field, for duty.

17. Sergt. Charles Wentworth, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, is hereby relieved from duty with the signal detachment, Department of Virginia and North Carolina, and will report in person without delay to the chief signal officer, headquarters Department of the Susquehanna, for duty. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 14, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There was no change in my lines during the twenty-four hours ending 9 a. m. to-day.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 14, 1864—10.40 a. m. (Received 10.45 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general desires to know the cause of the heavy artillery firing now going on?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Major-General Birney.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 14, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

There has been no heavy artilley firing on my front this morning. There appears to be some farther to the right than my line.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 14, 1864—11.15 a. m. (Received 11.30 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK, *Commanding Second Corps:*

General Birney reports that the heavy artillery firing is an effort on his part to stop the incessant picket and artillery fire of the enemy by concentrating a heavy artillery fire upon him for an hour.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Major-Generals Warren and Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 14, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Information received from signal stations and elsewhere giving reason to suspect some movement of the enemy, corps commanders are requested to enjoin special vigilance on the part of their commands, and to be prepared to move their troops or parts of them promptly upon receiving orders to that effect, and to hold in view the possible contingency of withdrawing all their force except the garrison and armaments of the inclosed works. To that end the garrisons of those works will be designated and posted. A reconnaissance will be made by General Warren toward the Boydton plank road early to-morrow morning.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Major-Generals Warren, Parke, and Birney, and Brigadier-General Davies, commanding cavalry.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 14, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Commanding Second Corps:*

GENERAL: Your communication of the 11th instant was received yesterday and submitted to the commanding general, who has requested me to express his acknowledgments for the suggestions contained therein, and reply, in substance as follows (for convenience of statement the numbered paragraphs of your letter will be taken in order):

1. It would be difficult to define the dividing line between the responsibility of the corps commander and of the chief of artillery of the army respecting the artillery in the line of intrenchments. When questions arise like that presented reference should be made to these headquarters. In the present case the especial question is whether the Reserve Artillery ammunition of the pieces in the redoubts should be placed in the magazines or retained in the wagons. Wherever the magazines are in good condition it should be kept in them, every precaution being taken to have it properly aired and cared for.

2. An engineer officer has been sent to carry out your views in reference to additional works on the plank road, and to complete the defenses in that quarter.

3. In reference to erecting an advance work near the Gregory Chimneys at the present time, as it would entail material modifications

of the line on the right and left, the commanding general, for that and other considerations connected with the establishment of such a work, is indisposed to direct its execution.

4. The abatis and wire entanglement along the large redan and on its left is considered to be a very effective obstacle, and as serious an impediment to the enemy as the frise. The engineer troops are very much occupied, and until there is less pressure for their services, could not be very well spared to make the change suggested.

5 and 6. The opinion of the commanding general, of myself, and of the acting chief engineer, Major Michler, was originally the same as yours, that batteries on the highest part of the Williams house hill and one on the plank road, connected by as short a line as the ground would admit, was the proper arrangement for that locality; but upon an examination of the ground in detail, the chief engineer laid out the batteries as they are now erected, and I think judiciously. They are so arranged as to require but little supporting infantry, and can nearly hold the ground by themselves. They were intended, however, as temporary works, to be superseded by redoubts with high reliefs—one on the highest part of the Williams house hill, the other on the plank road; the former is already in progress.

6 and 7. Directions have been already given for numbering the batteries and lettering the redoubts, and for affixing the same to those works. In addition to the letters, the redoubts will be named. Sketches exhibiting the works, with descriptive lists stating armament and garrison, as you suggest, will be distributed to corps commanders.

I ought to mention that the chief engineer frequently represented the desirableness of numbering the works, but they were not deemed in proper condition for it until the second line was ready for occupation.

7. The engineer troops will close the gorge of Fort Alexander Hays, as suggested.

The foregoing comprises, I think, the disposition made by the commanding general of the several subjects of your communication.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: In reply to your telegram of yesterday I have the honor to forward the following list of names for the inclosed works on my line: Fort Sedgwick—the fort now known as Fort Hell. Fort Alexander Hays—the fort at the Strong house. Fort McKeen—the fort now known as Fort Crawford; that is the large square redoubt on the plank road. Fort Haskell—the fort on the Norfolk road, near the Spicer house. Fort Patrick Kelly—the redoubt near the Norfolk railroad, on the front line, near the present front of General Mott's division. Fort Blaisdell—the one near the Chieves house.

I am, general, very respectfully,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 14, 1864—8 a. m.

Brig. Gen. H. J. HUNT,
Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac:

I have the honor to report no change observed or reported in the enemy's lines during the last twenty-four hours. Picket-firing constant. It having been reported that the enemy's sharpshooters posted in a barn to our left were annoying, a few shots were directed on that point from Ricketts' battery, with the effect of driving them out. Several shots were also exchanged with the enemy's batteries.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. M. EDGELL,
Captain, Commanding.

(Copy to Capt. W. P. Wilson, acting assistant adjutant-general, Second Corps.)

SPECIAL ORDERS.] HDQRS. ARTY. BRIG., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 14, 1864—11 p. m.

As a movement of the enemy is expected, the commanding officers of batteries on the line will use the utmost vigilance and be prepared for any emergency requiring the line to be held by the inclosed works only.

SPECIAL ORDERS.]

As a movement of the enemy is expected the batteries in reserve will be ready to move at short notice, but will not hitch and harness until further orders.

By command of Capt. F. M. Edgell:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 14, 1864.

Lieut. J. H. LOCKWOOD,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Division, Second Army Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I would most respectfully call the attention of the general commanding the division to the dangerous position of the last ten posts on the right of my picket-line. The sharpshooters in the two forts bring the fire mostly in this direction, thus preventing our men there from engaging the enemy in front successfully, rendering these ten posts almost useless, and endangering the lives of our men, who, on this part of the line, dare not raise a musket. I am informed that this is partly owing to the practice that some of the sharpshooters allow officers and men not properly belonging to the fort to fire their pieces. I would respectfully ask that an order be issued to prevent such occurrences.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. MCALLISTER,
Colonel Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers, Comdg. Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual or important transpired in my front during yesterday or last night. Details numbering 900 men were at work yesterday on the defenses and roads at this point.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 14, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Butler reports the enemy holding in his front with a line not stronger than his pickets. The signal officers report the numbers of the enemy in the intrenchments this side of the plank road much less than usual. General Davies has been instructed to send two strong and efficient regiments of cavalry to report to you by daylight to-morrow morning. The commanding general directs that you make a reconnaissance early to-morrow morning toward the Boydton plank road to ascertain if the enemy is making any movement around our left, using a strong force of infantry to cover and support your cavalry.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 14, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general wishes to know the result of the reconnaissance to-morrow at the earliest time practicable.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR, No. 131.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 14, 1864.

Information has been received that the enemy is passing around to our left. Division commanders and the commander of the Artillery Brigade will hold their commands in readiness, prepared to move at 4 a. m. to-morrow.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 14, 1864—10 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. W. CRAWFORD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you have your entire division ready to move at 4 a. m. to-morrow. Brigadier-

General Baxter's brigade is detailed to make a reconnaissance to-morrow, and he will report with it at these headquarters at 4 o'clock to-morrow morning.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
September 14, 1864—10.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General Bragg and Colonel Hofmann will have their commands in readiness to move at 4 a. m. to-morrow. The men will be awakened without sound of bugle or drum at 2.30 a. m. and breakfast.

By command of Brigadier-General Crawford:

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
September 14, 1864—10.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General BAXTER:

The general commanding directs that your men be awakened at 2 a. m. to-morrow without sound of bugle or drum. Tents need not be struck.

By command of Brigadier-General Crawford:

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
September 14, 1864—11.45 p. m.

General BRAGG:

As your brigades are intended as a support to General Baxter's brigade, which goes on a reconnaissance to-morrow morning, the general commanding says that you need not disturb your men as early as previously indicated, but let them get all the sleep they can and be in readiness to move soon after daylight.

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Colonel Hofmann.)

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 14, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report all quiet on my front during the last twenty-four hours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 14, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

Dispatch of 9.30 received.* Shall I designate the garrisons and armament for the works in my front or will they be designated by you?

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 14, 1864—10.30 p. m. (Received 11 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE, *Commanding Ninth Corps:*

The commanding general wishes to know what was the result of your examination yesterday in reference to throwing forward your pickets, and whether you cannot throw forward the right of your picket-line and get rid of the sharp bend to the rear of the picket-line of the Second Corps. Your dispatch about garrisons and armament received. Please designate them until otherwise directed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The right of my picket-line was thrown forward yesterday to connect with the left of the Second Corps and preserves about the same relative position with the main line on my right as does the left of the Second Corps line. The whole line can be still farther advanced and get rid of the re entering angle, but being in the woods is somewhat objectionable. I will direct a further examination to be made in the morning, and, if not otherwise ordered, will advance my right to conform with the Second Army Corps.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Blick's Station, Va., September 14, 1864.

Hereafter the troops occupying the trenches will be turned out at 4.30 a. m. instead of 4 a. m., and will remain under arms until 5.30 a. m. instead of 5 a. m.

By command of Maj. Gen. John G. Parke:

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 71. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 14, 1864.

I. Col. N. B. McLaughlen, Fifty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers, having reported for duty at these headquarters, is hereby assigned to the command of the Third Brigade, relieving Lieut. Col. J. H. Barnes, Twenty-ninth Massachusetts Volunteers.

By command of Brigadier-General Hartranft:

JNO. D. BERTOLETTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Humphreys to Hancock, p. 821.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Weldon Railroad, Va., September 14, 1864.

Capt. JOHN C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: In compliance with instructions received I have the honor to recommend the following names for works on my front: For the redoubt occupied by Eleventh Massachusetts Battery, Redoubt Pearson, in memory of Lieut. Col. Henry H. Pearson, Sixth New Hampshire Volunteers, killed May 26 at North Anna River. For the battery occupied by Nineteenth New York Battery, Battery Howard, in memory of Lieut. Col. Henry Howard, Second Maryland Volunteers, killed July 30, in the assault in front of Petersburg, Va.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 14, 1864—2 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on the cavalry picket-line. Parties sent out from General Kautz's line to ambush the enemy's scouting parties succeeded in killing 2 and wounding 1. Active scouting against the guerrillas is kept up.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 14, 1864—9 p. m.

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry:

The major-general commanding directs that you send two strong and efficient regiments of cavalry to report to Major-General Warren by daylight to-morrow morning for immediate service.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
September 14, 1864.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division, Cavalry Corps:

I have the honor to report all quiet along the line picketed by this brigade. Citizens report that scouting parties occasionally come down the plank road within view of our pickets, then return. The enemy have no picket within one mile of our front on the plank road to-day.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. H. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 14, 1864.

Col. CHARLES H. SMITH,
Comdg. Second Brigade, Second Division, Cavalry:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you detail two strong and efficient regiments from your command (in command of a colonel or lieutenant-colonel) to report to General Warren at daylight to-morrow (15th instant). This command will take two days' rations of subsistence and one day's forage, and will leave here at 3 a. m.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 14, 1864.

Brigade commanders and battery commanders will have their respective commands saddled, harnessed, and hitched up at daylight to-morrow (the 15th instant). This order not to affect your previous order.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDNANCE OFFICE,
Fort Monroe Arsenal, Va., September 14, 1864.

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery, Broadway Landing, Va.:

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant with regard to 13-inch mortar fuses. In reply I would state that the fuses referred to were recently received here from the North, and that those of the same lot which I have examined since the receipt of your letter appeared to be perfectly good. If you will return me some of those which were filled with sawdust or otherwise defective I will have the matter fully investigated. In some cases I find the priming in the top of the fuse is separated from the case, and if this should happen to fall out the fuse would not be likely to ignite; but by leaving the paper cap on the fuse and cutting a small hole in it the priming will be kept in its place and there should be no difficulty with the ignition of the fuse.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. EDSON,
Captain of Ordnance, Commanding.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *September 14, 1864.*

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy opened from a new battery to-day, making a few good shots at the canal. Fired at them slowly with the three 8-inch mortars, the 10-pounder Parrott, the 10-inch sea-coast mortar, and the 100-pounder Parrott, causing them

to cease firing soon after dinner. The Howlett house opened a new battery, doing but little execution and making a great deal of noise. Everything seems to be favorable so far. There were but 4 men killed and 2 wounded to-day at the Gap (darkies).

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 14, 1864. (Received 9.30 a. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing of special interest on my line. The picket-firing, owing to late movement of the Second Corps, has become incessant, and my casualties were quite large. I will try and stop it to-day.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 14, 1864. (Received 11 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The firing on my part is an effort by concentration for an hour to stop the incessant picket and artillery fire that the enemy have kept up during yesterday and last night.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 14, 1864—11.10 a. m. (Received 11.15 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. D. B. BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

The commanding general wishes you to make a special report of the result of your effort to stop the enemy's fire, and requests that in future before opening such a heavy artillery fire you will report the matter to these headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 14, 1864. (Received 1.40 [12.40] p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report that the concentration of the fire of my batteries for an hour on the enemy has completely silenced their batteries and also the incessant musketry kept up on my line. Several of my heavy batteries opened on the town. Hereafter will report, as you direct, the opening of artillery.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 14, 1864—12.45 p. m. (Received 1 p. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

The concluding paragraph of your dispatch, just received, stating result of your artillery fire, leads me to think that the language of my previous dispatch was not sufficiently explicit. The intention of the commanding general was that before opening such heavy fire, under the circumstances stated, his sanction should be obtained.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 14, 1864.

Lieut. Col. R. H. JACKSON,
Chief of Artillery, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that from 10 to 11 o'clock this morning every gun and mortar bearing on the enemy will be opened. Those that can reach the town will concentrate on the middle steeple. The firing will be with precision and deliberation, each battery concentrating its fire.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIG., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 14, 1864.

Capt. CHARLES H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: There is nothing of importance to report this morning. Ninety-eight rounds were fired at the enemy's working parties and at the battery which fired at the locomotive. Private William H. Shaver, of Company H, Third New York Artillery, was severely wounded in the head.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieut. Col., Asst. Inspector-General and Chief of Artillery.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 93. } *Near Petersburg, Va., September 14, 1864.*

I. Col. William B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, commanding Second Brigade, Second Division, Tenth Army Corps, having been detached on other duties, is hereby relieved from command of the Second Brigade.

II. Col. G. Pennypacker, Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, will assume command of the Second Brigade, Second Division, Tenth Army Corps, during the temporary absence of Col. William B. Barton.

By order of Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster:

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 94. } *City Point, Va., September 15, 1864.*

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2. Capt. H. C. Robinett, aide-de-camp U. S. Army, is hereby assigned to duty on the staff of the lieutenant-general commanding, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

GEO. K. LEET,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 15, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

(Or if General Grant has left in cipher to Fortress Monroe.)

I send a dispatch* received from Warren. General Warren has been ordered to withdraw his command as soon as all the information is obtained that is practicable. I judge from the reports that Gregg's recent movement, about the 1st instant, showed the enemy the necessity of holding Poplar Grove Church with some force to be notified of any advance on our part, and that Warren has met there this force. The fact that he found the roads obstructed and of his not being immediately driven back are evidences to me that the enemy are not in great force at that point and did not contemplate immediate offensive movements. If he has any such intention he will doubtless mask his movements by holding all such points of approach as Poplar Grove Church, Reams', &c., in such force as to compel a battle for us to find out what he is about.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 15, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Lieutenant-General Grant directs me to say that the reconnaissance of this morning is satisfactory and the troops can now be withdrawn.

GEO. K. LEET,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, calling my attention to the large detail from the First (dismounted) Delaware Cavalry for the portion of the Artillery Brigade, Sixth Corps, now with this army. The detail was made at the time the corps was ordered to Washington and to serve with the whole brigade. It was made by General Wright without my knowledge.

* See Warren to Humphreys, 9.30 a. m., p. 840.

When the corps left City Point he took but six batteries with him, leaving the other six with the artillery trains and this detachment, awaiting his orders to join the corps. As soon as the matter was brought to my notice, I recommended that the whole detachment should be sent to rejoin its regiment, the men actually serving with batteries as cannoneers only to be retained; and I subsequently recommended that these men be replaced by a detail from the Fourth New York Heavy Artillery. This was done, and the whole cavalry detachment has left to join its regiment. The trains have been ordered to the artillery park, that it may be under the charge of its guard. The foot artillery troops, assigned by the lieutenant-general for service with the artillery of this army, were asked for by me in order that the guard, working, and other details for the artillery might be made from them, and so prevent the irregularities brought to my notice. These troops have been withdrawn from their duties and assigned to divisions of infantry by the corps commanders, who have taken the whole matter into their own hands, and add to or withdraw from the details made for the artillery without any reference to me whatever. As it is manifest that the infantry needs every man with a musket, I have made no objection to the dispositions that corps commanders have felt called upon to make, but it is not in my power, under existing circumstances, to correct the evil if they make excessive details. I will, however, call the attention of the respective chiefs of artillery to the necessity of reducing to a minimum the number of men not belonging to batteries who are on duty with their respective brigades.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General, Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
City Point, Va., September 15, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have a report from Captain McEntee, dated day before yesterday, at Washington. Scouts had returned that morning from Cammack's and Silver's. The news they bring amounts to the absence of all movements through Orange Court-House toward or from the Valley. Cammack reports that a neighbor of his lately received letters from friends in the Ninth and Thirtieth Virginia Regiments, now in Georgia. These regiments are both in Pickett's division, and were a very few days ago in our front. The Thirtieth Virginia was raised in and about Fredericksburg, and the mail-carrier at Fredericksburg reported the Thirtieth as being at present near Petersburg. I presume the mistake will be found to be in the number of the regiment. The Thirtieth Virginia is understood at Fredericksburg to be reduced to less than a company. Cars are running on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad three times a week as far as Culpeper Court-House. The Fredericksburg railroad is expected to be in running order to Hamilton's Crossing in three or four days. The bridge over the South Anna is repaired, and that over the North Anna will be shortly completed. Some people about Fredericksburg report that railroad to have been repaired for the purpose of facilitating a heavier movement north-

wardly. It will be remembered, however, that the rebels have always drawn large quantities of supplies every fall from the counties embraced in the northern neck of Virginia. Welford's Furnace, in Spotsylvania County, has been rebuilt, and is again in full blast. I have men this morning from over the river who met an agent last night returned from Richmond. There is no change in the information, and no movements of troops to be reported. Nothing is known in Richmond outside of official circles of the position of Early. A neighbor of our agent, who resides in Charles City County, came on Tuesday from Petersburg. He reports that while there several of the heaviest guns were being moved from their positions. No facts were obtainable showing whether it was a mere change in position, or whether they were to be sent elsewhere. I desire to add, as a matter of personal explanation, that the scouts who go from the neighborhood of Orange Court-House and Fredericksburg to Washington, report, by order, to General Grant's assistant adjutant-general at Washington, and their reports are thence forwarded to General Grant direct. I have in a few cases received copies of them, and have then always forwarded them to General Humphreys without delay. The men are mainly the citizens who used to be in our employ in that direction.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 15, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from the Sixth Virginia Infantry, of Mahone's old brigade, Mahone's division, came into the lines of the Second Army Corps, General Mott's division, about 8 p. m. yesterday. He brings no information. No changes in position as far as informant knew. A. P. Hill's corps still in line in the trenches occupying the same position, viz, Heth's division on the left, Mahone's center, and Wilcox's on the right. Informant is not intelligent.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 15, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two prisoners of war have just been forwarded from the Second Corps. They belong to the Washington Artillery, and are attached to Mahone's division. They came out to look for stray horses and strolled into our pickets. They are both intelligent men, and do not seem anxious to return, though their mind is not fully made up on the point. They say that no movements have taken place of late, and the position of their army remains unchanged. Their battery is posted

between the brigades of Weisiger and Sanders, of Mahone's division, and is nearly 1,000 yards from the Jerusalem plank road, west.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 15, 1864—9 a. m.

Major FISHER:

All quiet.

H. W. FULTON.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 15, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major FISHER:

All quiet this a. m.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 15, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Two regiments of infantry passed open space near lead mine, moving toward Petersburg. One regiment of infantry drawn up in line to our left of lead mine.

HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Brigadier-General BAXTER:

The following dispatch is sent for your information:

HALIFAX ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 15, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

At 9 a. m. the enemy's picket-line on left of railroad was re-enforced by two regiments of infantry from the works along the Boydton plank road. At 9.30 a. m. a four-gun battery passed a point near the junction of the Squirrel Level road with the Boydton plank road, going toward our left. An unusual cloud of dust rising for the last hour on the Boydton plank, half a mile left of lead-works and apparently moving toward the left, indicates a movement of troops or trains in that direction. Yesterday and to day the enemy has been engaged on a new and strong breast-work about a hundred yards in front of their former works, half a mile left of lead-works.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to General Humphreys.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I send the following, just received:

HALIFAX ROAD SIGNAL STATION—2.20 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

About a squadron of cavalry, followed by four large regiments of infantry well closed up and twelve pieces of artillery, have just passed a point on what I suppose to be the Boydton plank road half a mile west of lead-works, moving toward our left. The infantry was moving at a double-quick.

CHARLES L. DAVIS,
Captain, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Following just received:

HALIFAX ROAD SIGNAL STATION—2.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE:

Six more pieces of artillery and ten regiments of infantry, counted by their colors, have passed the same point indicated in my last report, and the men in the first line of works that I see from here along the Boydton plank road have struck their tents and are preparing to move.

CHARLES L. DAVIS,
Captain, Signal Officer.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 15, 1864—5 p. m.

Major FISHER:

A column of infantry has just passed westward on road leading from large fort; were eighteen minutes in passing. They first appeared on road in vicinity of lead-works and rear of Weldon railroad.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

SEPTEMBER 15, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major FISHER:

All quiet along the enemy's lines in view. About 500 rebel infantry passed to our left along road to our right of Petersburg at 1.30 p. m. Their equipments, &c., could not be discerned by reason of a smoky atmosphere.

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 15, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

The following has been intercepted:

8.30 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Six pieces of artillery passed open space drilling in the rear of Battery 5.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

9.15 A. M.

Two gun-boats off Point of Rocks; one steamer in the river.

J. A. S.,
At C.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 15, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

The following has just been intercepted:

Colonel B[RENT]:

One regiment of cavalry drilling in open space. Two gun-boats above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

SEPTEMBER 15, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

There is again considerable dust west of the city this p. m., but I can make nothing of it; moves south. Have seen no unusual move to-day. The working parties on new works are about the same as yesterday.

A. C. JORDAN.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 15, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch from plank road station is respectfully forwarded:

6.30 P. M.

After sundown a body of troops were seen in edge of woods left of lead-works, and for three-quarters of an hour a cloud of dust was visible in rear of Petersburg and extending to the fort west of the Weldon railroad.

Just in rear of this fort the Squirrel Level road disappears in the woods. During the afternoon about 500 infantry came into Petersburg from the north side of the Appomattox.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 36. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *September 15, 1864.*

The major-general commanding, having been furnished with the following communication, publishes the same to this army for the information and guidance of all concerned, and so much of General Orders, No. 78, of August 20, 1863, from these headquarters, as authorizes officers to procure supplies through the medium of agents or purveyors upon permits signed by a general officer and approved by the provost-marshal-general, will hereafter be held to exclude all kinds of spirituous, vinous, and malt liquors. The provost-marshal-general of this army is charged with the execution of this order.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., September 8, 1864.

Brig. Gen. M. R. PATRICK,
Provost-Marshal-General, Armies operating against Richmond, City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: The attention of Lieutenant-General Grant having been called to the large quantities of liquors being brought within the lines of the armies operating against Richmond, he directs that from and after this date you prohibit all kinds of spirituous, vinous, or malt liquors from being brought above Fort Monroe, Va., except such as belong to the commissary or medical departments.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

By command of Major-General Meade:
S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: In reply to your dispatch of this a. m. I have the honor to add to the list of names for forts, which have already been forwarded to you, the following names of highly distinguished officers, colonels, and lieutenant-colonels of this corps who have been killed during the present campaign:

First Division—Col. R. Byrnes, Twenty-eighth Massachusetts, Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864; Col. L. O. Morris, Seventh New York Heavy Artillery, Cold Harbor, June 4, 1864; Col. O. H. Morris, Sixty-sixth New York Volunteers, Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864; Lieut. Col. A. B. Chapman, Fifty-seventh New York Volunteers, Wilderness, May 6, 1864; Lieut. Col. D. L. Stricker, Second Delaware Infantry, Spotsylvania, May 12, 1864.

Second Division—Col. James P. McMahon, One hundred and sixty-fourth New York, Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864; Col. P. A. Porter, Eighth [New York] Heavy Artillery, Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864; Lieut. Col. H. L. Abbott, Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteers, Wilderness, May 6, 1864.

Third Division—Col. C. A. Craig, One hundred and fifth Pennsylvania, Deep Bottom, August 16, 1864; Col. Daniel Chaplin, First Maine Heavy Artillery, Deep Bottom, August 17, 1864; Lieut. Col. George W. Meikel, Twentieth Indiana Volunteers, Petersburg, September 10, 1864; Lieut. Col. Waldo Merriam, Sixteenth Massachusetts Volunteers, Spotsylvania, May 12, 1864.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 15, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: There have been no changes in my line during the last twenty-four hours. Yesterday, about 5 p. m., the enemy shelled train on the railroad near these headquarters. One of our batteries replied. The wagons of the Fifth Corps train are in sight of the enemy's batteries. I think that train should be moved behind the woods to the right of my headquarters. It would [then] be close to the depot as near as now, and would not, as at present, be the means of drawing the enemy's fire upon my reserve troops. I would have placed my own train where the wagons of the Fifth Corps now are but for the reasons urged against the Fifth Corps train remaining where it is.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding Second Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864. (Received 3.10 p. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

The following dispatch just received from signal officer:

Two bodies of infantry moved from the works near large fort at Weldon railroad and disappeared on road running west; they numbered near 3,000 in all.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864—8 a. m.

Brig. Gen. H. J. HUNT,
Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report no change observed in the enemy's lines during the past twenty-four hours. The enemy were reported yesterday marching a body of troops near the lead-works, but they could not be seen from the batteries. About 5 p. m. the enemy threw a few shells over our lines, which fell near the headquarters of General Miles. Our batteries replied promptly and the firing soon ceased. But little picket-firing yesterday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. M. EDGELL,
Captain, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARTY. BRIGADE, SECOND CORPS,
No. 53. } *September 15, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

II. Burton's (Eleventh New York) battery will relieve Ricketts' battery (F), First Pennsylvania Artillery, in the work near the plank road to-night after dark. Captain Ricketts, when relieved, will move his battery into the work now occupied by Captain Burton.

III. It having been reported that the enemy are moving in force down the Weldon railroad, the following assignment of batteries to divisions is made in anticipation of a movement of our troops: To First

Division, Roder's (K), Fourth United States; Edgell's, First New Hampshire; to Second Division, Beck's (C and I), Fifth United States; Ames' (G), First New York.

The commanders of the above-named batteries will report in person to their respective division commanders at once, stating their location.

By command of Capt. F. M. Edgell:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

Lieut. J. H. LOCKWOOD,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Division, Second Army Corps:

LIEUTENANT: The firing last evening and night had to be increased on account of the increased firing of the enemy and a report that they were attempting to advance on my right. I would call the attention of the general commanding to the fact that the connection is not good between the Third and First Brigades, owing to the First Brigade rifle-pits on the left being considerably in rear of the Third Brigade, and unless the right of the Third Brigade keep up a constant fire there is danger of the rebels pouncing on our right flank. I have ordered less firing on our line, but when we slack the enemy increase theirs. It is impossible to save ammunition as we would wish; if we do, it is at the risk of losing our works on the right, especially at night, as it is exposed to a flank fire. I will, however, do as you direct in the matter.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. MCALLISTER,
Colonel Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

General Baxter's brigade, with the cavalry, started out a little past 4 o'clock this morning and met some of the enemy on the Vaughan road southwest from here and on the road running west. Some skirmishing has been going on for the last hour, but no report has yet been received of what force the enemy has.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

(Transmitted to Lieutenant-General Grant at 7.45 a. m.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

The commanding officer of the cavalry has just sent in to say that they have met a considerable force of the enemy on both roads. He states they have both cavalry and infantry. No report has yet been received from General Baxter.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

(Transmitted to Lieutenant-General Grant at 8.40 a. m.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I send the following, just received:

7.45 A. M.

General WARREN:

We are at the cross-roads, just beyond the church. The enemy have a line of infantry stretching in a circle around the Poplar Grove Church as a center, radius three-quarters of a mile. We are forming line of battle immediately around the church. The cavalry is skirmishing heavily north and west from the cross-roads; the infantry skirmishers are now being deployed for their assistance. The western road, out which the cavalry was to go, is also guarded by the rebel infantry, and it therefore seems doubtful at present whether the cavalry can go out that road. Major Falls has gone two miles down the Vaughan road, driving a small cavalry force before him. We have found out nothing more so far. Mrs. Smith, near the church, knows nothing. The road was barricaded for a few hundred yards, obstructing our march very much.

W. A. ROEBLING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Griffin.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance transpired in my front yesterday or during the night. The One hundred and ninety-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Colonel Sickel, reported last night and is assigned to General Griffin. One hundred and twenty-seven recruits arrived yesterday, eighty-one for Twentieth Maine and forty-six for Thirty-second Massachusetts.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 15, 1864—9.30 a. m. (Received 9.40 a. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your several dispatches are received. Whenever you are satisfied that the reconnaissance has obtained all the information that can be got by it the troops can be withdrawn.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The force I sent out this morning was Baxter's brigade of infantry, about 1,400 strong, and added the 200 cavalry I had here to the two

regiments. They all got off at 4 a. m. The infantry have reached the point (Poplar Grove Church) at which I directed them to halt and cover the roads coming in and let the cavalry attempt to penetrate farther. From Major Roebling's dispatch of 7.45 a. m. I think it probable a farther advance will not be practicable, and they will then need instructions whether to stay there till forced back or withdraw. I do not think it advisable to send any body of infantry beyond the church.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 15, 1864—9.50 a. m. (Received 9.55 a. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Since sending you my dispatch of 9.30 a. m. your dispatch of 9.30 a. m. has been received. The object of the reconnaissance was to obtain information of the supposed movements of the enemy. Whenever you are satisfied no further information can be obtained withdraw the troops. It is not intended or wished that they should remain out until forced back.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I sent out word to General Baxter to withdraw as soon as he had accomplished all he deemed practicable in the way of a reconnaissance. The officer just returned from the Poplar Spring Church says: I found General Baxter near the church, from which point he had sent his advance one mile. Had not found the enemy in force nor any evidence of the passing of any considerable body of troops.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 15, 1864—10.40 a. m. (Received 10.45 a. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The wagons of the Fifth Corps near the plank road are in sight of the enemy's batteries and draw their fire upon the reserve troops of the Second Corps. There is woods on the right of the Second Corps headquarters, behind which they would be concealed from the view of the enemy.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The reconnoitering party has returned. Their casualties were about a dozen killed and wounded. They found the enemy occupying an old intrenched line on the Squirrel Level road, about one mile north of Poplar Spring Church. Our cavalry forced the enemy's back westward over a mile beyond the church. The enemy was not in any considerable force nor could a knowledge of any movement of troops be gained. A brigade of cavalry were said to be stationed on the plank road south of Hatcher's Run. Our cavalry on the Vaughan road pushed back the enemy's for a considerable distance southwest. A patrol I sent down the railroad found the enemy's vedettes about one mile south of our own. On the whole, I consider that there is no great force of the enemy between me and the Boydton plank road, and the report of the signal officer of the battery moving in that direction and the dust confirms it as it was probably a re-enforcement. The map we have is very imperfect and the country is not easy to operate in west of us. I will send up the detailed reports and sketch this evening.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 15, 1864—12.30 p. m. (Received 12.35 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Deserters who came into General Birney's line this morning state that the reserve troops moved toward the Weldon railroad last evening.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

I think these movements indicate that the enemy were not in force here and that they are preparing for any demonstration we may intend making. Major Roebling says from our advance this morning the long roll could be heard in places by the enemy. I think I am fully prepared for anything that occurs to-day, and I am of the opinion that the enemy will wait our attack rather than attacking us.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864—5 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

If it is all quiet, shall I send back the two regiments of cavalry?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 15, 1864. (Sent 6 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Yes; send back the cavalry.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864—7.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy's infantry came this afternoon in small force this side of the Poplar Spring Church, almost to the Vaughan road, but did not drive off my cavalry at the fork of the road. They fired a little at the cavalry and disappeared. All quiet.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864—8.20 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The cavalry picket, on the fork of the Vaughan road going to Poplar Spring Church, sends in word that the enemy's infantry were seen moving toward Petersburg lately and fired a few shots at our outposts.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST PENNSYLVANIA VETERAN CAV. BATTALION,
September 15, 1864—8.30 a. m.

[Col. F. T. LOCKE,]
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report all quiet on my road from the forks to the railroad. I have had a brisk skirmish of about one hour's duration, in which I had two men wounded, one probably mortally. The enemy is in considerable force on my right, their line extending down to near the railroad on my left, where I connected with General Gregg's cavalry.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. J. FALLS,
Major, Comdg. First Pennsylvania Veteran Cavalry Battalion.

HDQRS. FIRST PENNSYLVANIA VET. RESERVE CAVALRY,
September 15, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that on my return here I found my picket had retaken his post, and now holds indisputable possession

of it. The enemy are not supposed to be in force in this vicinity, having drawn off on my pickets repossessing their post. Everything is apparently quiet.

I am, sir, very respectfully, yours, &c.,

R. J. FALLS,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864—3.40 p. m.

Major FALLS,
Commanding First Pennsylvania Veteran Cavalry:

Information has been received from the signal station that the enemy are moving large forces to our left. Keep a bright lookout in all directions, and send in word if anything transpires. Keep your command out till dark, when word will be sent you when to withdraw.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SEPTEMBER 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that, in pursuance of your order, I visited General Baxter. I found him near a church, from which point he informed me he had advanced one mile. He had not found the enemy in force, nor had he discovered any evidence of the passage of any considerable body of troops. The order to withdraw was given in my presence.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. HIGBEE,
First Lieutenant, Eleventh Infantry, and Acting Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

General WARREN:

The following just received:

SIGNAL STATION,
Plank Road, September 15, 1864—4.40 p. m.

Captain TAYLOR:

Cavalry and infantry have been passing, bearing south of west. Wagons and ambulances accompanied the movement. Movement commenced at 3 o'clock, but the dust prevented seeing everything that passed. Cavalry and infantry were passing three-quarters of an hour, but owing to the dust cannot tell in what proportion. Enemy quite active, and stragglers still passing.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Signal Officer.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 229. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

* * * * * * *

IV. The Fourth Division, Fifth Army Corps, having been discontinued, Capt. Charles McClure, commissary of subsistence, late Fourth

Division, is relieved, and will report to Lieut. Col. M. R. Morgan, chief commissary Armies operating against Richmond, in compliance with Special Orders, No. 93, headquarters Armies of the United States, of September 14, 1864.

V. General Baxter's brigade is temporarily detached from the Third Division and is assigned to garrison the two forts, which will be done at 4.30 a. m. to-morrow. One-half of the command will be placed in each of the forts, and General Baxter will make his headquarters for the present in the vicinity of corps headquarters. His brigade will furnish all the details to complete the interior of the works. General Griffin and General Ayres are relieved from furnishing details for this purpose. Any infantry now within the forts will be withdrawn on the arrival of the troops of General Baxter's brigade. The artillery now in the forts will remain until relieved by other batteries.

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By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 132.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

Division commanders will at once get their commands under arms and in line prepared for an attack and remain so until dark. The enemy is continually moving force down toward our left. Colonel Hofmann's brigade will at once move into position on the breast-works east of the railroad, built by Colonel Wheelock, on the left of General Griffin. Brigadier-General Griffin will post a sufficient force in the fort to defend the southeast and southwest fronts. The horses of the batteries will all be harnessed up.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864—4 p. m.

DIVISION COMMANDERS:

A report from the cavalry has just been received that the enemy is advancing from the west. It is not known in what strength.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

The above is communicated for the information of brigade commanders, who will hold their commands in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

By command of Brigadier-General Crawford:

EDWARD C. BAIRD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864—7.30 p. m. (Received 7.40 p. m.)

General GRIFFIN:

I have detailed the garrisons for the forts from Baxter's brigade, so that you and General Ayres can have all of your divisions if we have to move. I wish you would move your troops from around the fort so that I can abatis it all around. You can move these troops to advantage to the left of the railroad into the breast-works facing southeast, where [we] should need men if the enemy makes an attack from the south.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 61. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. In compliance with Special Orders, No. 229, headquarters Fifth Corps, the infantry troops of this division now occupying the forts will be relieved by General Baxter's brigade at 4.30 a. m. to-morrow, his brigade having been temporarily detached from the Third Division for that purpose.

By order of Brigadier-General Ayres:

GEO. L. CHOISY,
First Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 15, 1864—9.30 a. m. (Received 10 a. m.)

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Your dispatch in relation to the names to be given works received. The commanding general desires to have you report the names of such officers of your command who have fallen during the present campaign as in your judgment should be honored in the manner indicated, without limiting yourself to names for the works along your line. The selection of names for all the works will be made here. Have you any names to add to those you have already reported? Please answer by telegraph as soon as practicable.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 15, 1864—9.30 a. m. (Received 9.40 a. m.)

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding thinks that the working parties on the redoubt near Williams' house and on the road might be continued on those works.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
September 15, 1864—9.40 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

Nothing unusual has transpired along my lines during the past twenty-four hours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., 9TH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

In obedience to Special Orders, No. 71, headquarters Ninth Army Corps, the undersigned assumes command of this brigade. All previous orders are continued in force till modified.

N. B. MCLAUGHLEN,
Colonel Fifty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on the cavalry picket-line for the past twenty-four hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General of Vols., Comdg. Second Division Cavalry.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division, Cavalry Corps:

All quiet along the picket-line of this command this morning. No disturbance during the night.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division, Cavalry Corps:

I have the honor to report all quiet along the line picketed by this command.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *September 15, 1864.*

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy commenced firing from the new battery about the middle of the forenoon, making

poor practice and hurting no one. They ceased shelling about 3 p. m. Not a shot has been fired from their old battery, in the point of woods, since day before yesterday. Judge that they found it too warm there. Men continue healthy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
September 15, 1864—9.10 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

Yesterday morning the enemy's artillery opened heavily along my entire front. I ordered all of my guns to reply for an hour, my rifled guns bearing particularly on the city. The fire had an admirable effect. My command is at work the length of line, in strengthening line and completing redoubts. No new movement of the enemy discovered in my front. On my right the enemy were strengthening the abatis in their front.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

General WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Deserters this morning report that the reserve troops moved toward Weldon railroad last evening; that rebels are simply countermining; that the artillery fire yesterday was very effective; that 100 mounted scouts, being picked men added to a Louisiana company called McCulloch Rangers, are and have been for some time in vicinity of City Point, keeping concealed in swamps. The man giving this last information seemed intelligent and with special information.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 15, 1864—12.30 p. m. (Received 12.35 p. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY, *Commanding Tenth Corps:*

The commanding general requests that deserters who come into your lines, those of the Tenth Corps, may be sent to the provost-marshal-general at these headquarters for examination.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

The deserters that came in this morning have been sent to department headquarters. In a conversation with General Meade he requested me to continue to send them there. I will hereafter send them to your headquarters.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Captain Follett, U. S. Artillery, from his lookout reports the passage of a column of troops from Richmond to Petersburg. It was an hour passing a given point. A very long train of wagons followed it.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIG., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. HENRY J. HUNT,
Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the report called for by your letter of instructions of yesterday:

Firing was commenced at 10 a. m. yesterday and lasted until 11 a. m. from the following number of guns and mortars: 24 light 12-pounders, 18 3-inch ordnance, 4 10-pounder Parrotts, 5 6-pounder James guns, 2 4½-inch ordnance, 6 30-pounder Parrotts, 1 13-inch mortar, 4 10-inch mortars, 4 8-inch mortars, 11 Coehorn mortars; total, 76 guns and mortars. The number of rounds of ammunition expended were as follows: 708 12-pounder rounds, 491 3-inch ordnance rounds, 62 10-pounder Parrott rounds, 6 6-pounder James rounds, 41 4½-inch ordnance rounds, 139 30-pounder Parrott rounds, 8 13-inch mortar rounds, 49 10-inch mortar rounds, 29 8-inch mortar rounds, 148 Coehorn mortar rounds; total expended, 1,741. The fire from fifty guns and mortars was directed on the enemy's batteries and working parties; that from twenty-nine guns and mortars on the city of Petersburg. The effect of the fire upon the city cannot, of course, be ascertained, but was supposed to be destructive, as nearly all of the shells thrown were observed to explode within the limits. The enemy's earth-works, particularly the embrasures of his batteries, were very much damaged, and two of his batteries, the Chesterfield and one Cemetery Hill, after firing a few rounds, were compelled to discontinue on account of the accuracy and weight of our fire. As the result of the fire, our working parties have not been annoyed by the continual shelling of the enemy, which they have practiced for the last few days, not a cannon-shot having been fired since noon yesterday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieut. Col., Assistant Inspector-General and Chief of Artillery.

(Copy to Capt. Charles H. Graves, assistant adjutant-general, Tenth Army Corps.)

HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIG., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 15, 1864.

Capt. CHARLES H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report, in obedience with verbal directions from the major-general commanding, and

with reference to an indorsement of Brig. Gen. H. J. Hunt, chief of artillery, Army of the Potomac, of this date, on a report of the acting chief signal officer of that army:

No large working parties of the enemy have been discovered by any of the battery commanders on the Tenth Army Corps line during the last two or three days, and any small working parties in sight have been fired at by our artillery, due care having been, of course, taken that the ammunition was not uselessly expended. No working parties of the enemy large enough to justify an artillery fire have been seen to-day from any of our batteries, but their men can be discovered at various places along the line busied in strengthening their works and parapets. These men generally work singly or in groups of two or three. I have no doubt that from some points on the Second Corps line, and even still farther to the left, better views can be had of some of the rebel trenches and batteries in our front than can be obtained from the fourteen-gun battery on the works adjacent.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. JACKSON,

Lieut. Col., Assistant Inspector-General and Chief of Artillery.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 15, 1864.

Capt. A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report all quiet in our front this morning. No offensive movements have been made from our line. A covered way has been constructed at the right of Follett's battery, connecting the trench conveniently. The police of the trenches is good. The officer of the trenches reports:

During the night the enemy were engaged in front of the right, on the right of the ravine, cutting down timber, and busy shoveling on our left. As directed by the colonel commanding, I had the line connected by throwing up earth-works across the Prince George road on the left; also repaired the banquette along the whole line. Very little firing during the night.

Private George Zimmerman, Company K, Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, was mortally wounded yesterday. No further casualties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. VORIS,

Colonel Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, Comdg. First Brigade.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 15, 1864.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: Major Prince, who has been until to-night in command of the front line, reports that in his opinion the enemy are putting in a heavy gun—he thinks an 8-inch columbiad—on my extreme right, the gun so placed as to bear on Rockwell's battery. It was reported only at dark, and I have not had an opportunity to examine it.

Very respectfully,

JOSEPH C. ABBOTT,

Colonel Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers, Comdg. Brigade.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 34. } HDQRS. 2D BRIG., 2D DIV., 10TH CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 15, 1864.

I. Pursuant to paragraph II, Special Orders, No. 93, headquarters Second Division, Tenth Army Corps, the undersigned hereby assumes command of this brigade. All orders heretofore issued will remain in full force until revoked by competent authority.

G. PENNYPACKER,
Colonel Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Comdg. Brigade.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 15, 1864.

Capt. P. A. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Div., Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the working parties on my front have been engaged during the last twenty-four hours in constructing the parapet on the line in rear of the one now occupied and in collecting material for revetment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. A. OSBORN,
Colonel Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, Comdg. Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
September 15, 1864.

Maj. THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: The signal officer at the tower reports:

A train of pontoon wagons, nine or ten, was seen making for the river at a point just above Chaffin's Bluff. They have just left, loaded with six pontoon boats and other pontoon bridge equipments, in the direction of the Richmond and Petersburg turnpike. About 2 a. m. a ram was discovered at or rather a little below the Cox Ferry earth-work; saw another gun-boat and two tugs come down. All have now gone up the river except the ram.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEODORE F. PATTERSON,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., September 15, 1864.

In case the enemy open fire with artillery to-day division commanders will order the men of their commands into the trenches with their arms for the purpose of safety, as all our batteries along the line will open fire.

By command of Maj. Gen. John Gibbon:

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 15, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

A deserter who came into General Birney's line this morning states that 100 mounted scouts, added to a Louisiana company called McCulloch Rangers, are and have been for some time in vicinity of City Point, keeping concealed in swamps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Harper's Ferry, or Washington, or Baltimore:

Warren's reconnaissance was withdrawn yesterday about 12 m. Signal officers reported the movement of the enemy's troops toward our left at various times yesterday from 9 a. m. till sunset. These were believed to be counter movements to meet an expected advance on our part. This view was confirmed by Warren's pickets on the Vaughan road reporting the return of the enemy to Petersburg, and by a deserter this morning, who states his command left the trenches and moved to their right yesterday afternoon and returned during the night. This morning at daylight our cavalry pickets and reserves were strongly attacked between the Blackwater and the James. At the same time a dash was made on the cattle herd at Coggins' Point, and it is feared this herd and its guard has fallen into the enemy's hands. A prisoner taken reports the movement as being executed by Hampton with three brigades of cavalry, who left Stony Creek Depot last night, and after crossing the Blackwater took the shortest and most direct road to Coggins' Point. Immediately on receiving intelligence of this movement General Davies, commanding cavalry, was directed to pursue with all his available force, and a brigade of infantry, with a battery of artillery, was at the same time sent down the Prince George Court-House road to re-enforce Kautz. Warren reports demonstrations on his front this morning, his pickets being driven in, but at last report he had re-established his line. It is believed this movement was a diversion in favor of the cavalry raid. This raid was one which I have feared for some time, as with the limited force of cavalry under my command and the great extent of country to be watched I have always considered Coggins' Point an unsuitable position for the cattle herd, it being liable to capture at any time by a *coup de main* of the enemy in force. Every effort will be made to recover the herd or a portion of it.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—8.05 p. m. (Received 8.10 p. m.)

Lieut. Col. E. S. PARKER,
Headquarters Armies of the United States, City Point, Va.:

In answer to your dispatch of this evening I am instructed to say that it is believed the raid of the enemy has terminated with the seizure of the cattle herd and that there is supposed to be now no obstacle

to prevent the rebuilding of the telegraph line to Fort Powhatan. At any rate, it is thought the construction party had better endeavor to reopen the communication.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HARPER'S FERRY, *September 16, 1864.*
(Received 9 a. m. 18th)

Major-General MEADE:

If the enemy makes so rich a haul as to get our cattle herd he will be likely to strike far to the south, or even to the southeast to get around with it. Our cavalry should either recover what is lost, or else, in the absence of so much of the enemy's cavalry, strike the Weldon road far to the south of where it has been destroyed.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Harper's Ferry:

Nothing definite has been received from the cavalry, except that Kautz reports the enemy retired as soon as they succeeded in driving off the cattle from Coggins' Point. Kautz is in pursuit on the Prince George Court-House road and Davies on the Jerusalem plank road with all the cavalry that could be collected at the moment. A supporting force of infantry was sent on both roads. Heavy and distant firing was heard about 9 p. m., presumed to be Davies coming up with the enemy, but Hampton's force is so superior to ours and he had so much time to get off that I fear nothing will come of the pursuit except to harass the enemy. Twenty-four hundred head of cattle were captured. The affair was evidently the result of a deliberate plan, and advantage was taken of Warren's movement on the presumption our cavalry were all on the left. A deserter, who came in this morning, says he saw troops passing through Petersburg yesterday, said to be part of Early's force; that Early had sent back 6,000 men. I send this for what it is worth, but General Butler's signal officers reported yesterday troops moving into Petersburg on the road from Richmond. With the exception of the cavalry raid and the demonstration on Warren's pickets this morning the rest of the lines were quiet.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
ARMIES OPERATING AGAINST RICHMOND, VA.,
September 16, 1864.

Col. T. B. GATES,
Commanding Post and Defenses, City Point, Va.:

The enemy has broken through our line near Sycamore Church and may dash into City Point. Place all the troops under your control in

the best possible position to protect the depot. The officer in command of engineers will be directed to report to you for orders in the absence of General Benham. Have you any artillery? Reply immediately.

M. R. PATRICK,
Provost-Marshal-General.

HEADQUARTERS POST AND DEFENSES,
City Point, Va., September 16, 1864.

Brig. Gen. M. R. PATRICK,
Provost-Marshal-General, Armies operating against Richmond:

GENERAL: I am just in the receipt of the following:

COLONEL: I have just met a private of the First District of Columbia Cavalry, who was captured. He says they had 4 killed and about 300 captured; they also got one herd, 2,600 cattle. One man reports that he saw two regiments of infantry and a battery of eight guns. The First District is terribly demoralized; one of their captains says he killed a brigadier-general. From what I can hear I think the rebels are about 5,000 strong, with eight guns. They all belong to Hampton's Legion. Generals Kautz and Gregg are after them. There are detachments of the Third Pennsylvania and First District Cavalry between us and Sycamore Church. We are at the forks of the road leading to Light-House Point and Fort Powhatan. I will return at 2.30 unless I receive other orders from you. A man just in, who has escaped, reports the rebels retreating on the road leading to Stony Creek. I have picketed all the roads on our flanks and rear. Don't think City Point is in danger. The lines for six miles were assaulted this morning by three brigades of cavalry and eight pieces of artillery, under command of General William H. F. Lee and Colonel Butler. Captain Gregg, Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, in charge of guard, is captured; also Major Baker and 300 First District Cavalry at Sycamore Church. The enemy are retreating on the road leading to the Blackwater. This information I get from Captain Richardson, in charge of cattle herd. Captain R. says there is no doubt but that the rebels are in full retreat. There has nothing been heard from them since they left with the herd.

Respectfully,

W. A. VAN RENSSELAER,
Major Eightieth New York Infantry.

Very respectfully,

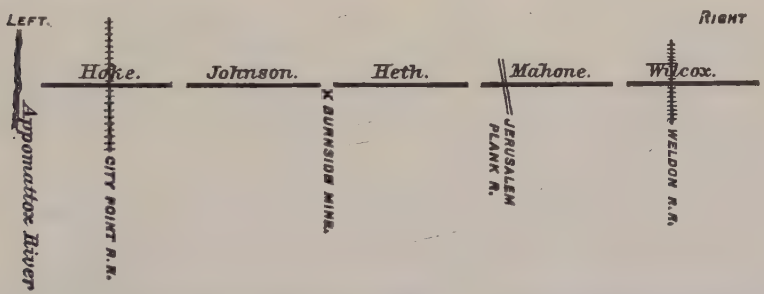
T. B. GATES,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 16, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from Wise's brigade, Bushrod Johnson's division, have just been forwarded from the Tenth Army Corps. They came into our lines on the City Point Railroad at daylight this a. m. They are from the Forty-sixth Virginia. They state that Hoke's entire division withdrew from the front yesterday afternoon and marched to the rear to some point on the right of the line; that Wise's brigade moved at 2 o'clock yesterday from a point near Burnside's mine to the extreme left, and now lies between the City Point Railroad and the Appomattox River. Johnson's entire division has been prolonged, and the four brigades of Wise, Ransom, Evans, and Gracie are the only troops now between the Burnside mine and the Appomattox River. On the right of the Burnside mine Mahone's division is posted, occupying the former position of Heth's division, which also withdrew yester-

day afternoon. The following diagram will show the relative position of the enemy's divisions (according to our latest information) up to this last change:



Deserters to-day report that Hoke's and Heth's divisions have withdrawn from the line and moved to the right to defend the South Side Railroad from a supposed advance of our forces. A part of Wilcox's division is reported to have withdrawn also, but returned again late last evening. One of the deserters from the Forty-sixth Virginia states that he was in Petersburg yesterday morning and saw infantry on the march that was said to have just arrived from Early's command; that he made inquiries and understood that Early had sent back 6,000 men; did not learn whose command it was or any of the regiments composing it. Informants are both intelligent and apparently honest. They think a considerable force was sent to the extreme right yesterday to fortify against an advance on the South Side road. Do not think any attack is intended on our lines.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 16, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: A conscript deserter from the Thirty-fourth North Carolina, Scales' brigade, Wilcox's division, came into the lines of the Ninth Army Corps about sunrise this a. m. He has only been in the army since the 28th of last month, and can give very little information. He states that yesterday morning about 10 o'clock two brigades (including his own, Scales') moved about a mile to the right in the direction of the South Side Railroad, and returned to their old position again last evening; does not know what other brigades went besides Scales', but it was some troops that had been lying in the rear, near Petersburg; that the men said our forces were advancing on the South Side Railroad, and the movement was to oppose it. About dark yesterday it was reported that the cavalry had driven our forces, and the infantry was then ordered back to their old positions. Scales' brigade is about a quarter of a mile east of the lead-works. Informant states that a part of McGowan's brigade occupied the works left by Scales during the movement. Informant has no further information of importance; thinks the remainder of the line was quiet yesterday; thinks no re-enforcements have arrived lately, except occasional conscripts. Rations as usual.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

CITY POINT, *September 16, 1864.*
(Received 9 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

I have just received a prisoner from Seventh Virginia Cavalry. The attack was made this a. m. between daylight and sunlight by Hampton's division of cavalry, three brigades. The enemy met with no resistance until they got to Sycamore Church, in the rear of which was the cattle herd. Here they found about a regiment. It is believed that the entire herd of 2,500 head was captured, with little loss to the enemy. Hampton's division was collected during last night at Stony Creek and crossed the Blackwater swamp by the nearest roads they could find to Coggins' Point. Prisoner is not familiar with the country; thinks they would go back the same way they came.

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
September 16, 1864—9.20 a. m.

General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry, near Williams' House:

I send you dispatch just received from City Point. The commanding general wishes you to strike the enemy on their return, if they are now on the return.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

Operator at Second Corps headquarters please send.

A. A. H.

CITY POINT, *September 16, 1864.*

JOHN C. BABCOCK:

Received here deserters from Seventeenth and Twenty-third Tennessee, Johnson's old brigade; left their commands on north side of James River this morning; yesterday a. m. saw Generals Lee and Beauregard at Cox's farm laying out new and stronger works; yesterday p. m. heard that there was but one division left in front of Petersburg, heard their officers say so; that the main part of their army was making a flank movement. On Tuesday the pontoon bridges over the James were taken up and then put back again; heard no reason given.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

SEPTEMBER 16, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE, *City Point:*

Deserter to-day from Thirty-fourth North Carolina, Scales' brigade. Enemy moved two brigades to right yesterday, anticipating an attack on South Side Railroad, but returned them again after dark. Scales' was one; don't know the other. Two deserters from Forty-sixth Virginia, Wise's brigade, came in this morning. Hoke's entire division withdrew from the trenches yesterday afternoon and moved to the right. Bushrod Johnson's division extends from the Burnside mine to the Appomattox, all the force between those points. Heth's division also withdrawn, and Mahone's extended to occupy its place. Six thousand men from Early's command were seen by deserters to be passing through Petersburg yesterday morning going to the right.

J. C. B[ABCOCK].

PLANK ROAD STATION,
September 16, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major FISHER:

At 9 a. m. 100 infantry moved from woods to the right of large fort, passed on the east side and disappeared on road running westward. At 12 m. a train of seventeen wagons came from direction of Petersburg and disappeared on the same road. A detachment of the enemy are working upon their lines in vicinity of lead-works.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 16, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 1 p. m. about 700 cavalry moved from woods in vicinity of large fort and disappeared on road running westward; was six minutes in passing.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 16, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

The following has been intercepted:

9 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One battery drilling in open space. One steamer off Point of Rocks. Two gunboats above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

1.40 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

The enemy have increased their camps in woods to the left of open space. One steamer above pontoon.

J. A. S.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 16, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

The following was intercepted:

5.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Battery drilling in open space going toward enemy's front in Chesterfield.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 16, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

The following was intercepted:

3.40 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Twenty-one six-horse wagons passed Point of Rocks going toward lower pontoon. Steamer went down the river and from the crowd on her deck I think her laden with troops.

J. A. S.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 16, 1864.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Enemy still working south of lead mine. I think they are throwing up a line of works there. All quiet otherwise.

H. W. HOLMAN.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—8.45 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER ENGINEER BRIGADE,
City Point:

The enemy's cavalry have broken through our line between Mount Zion Church and the James River and may make a dash toward City Point. Colonel Gates, commanding the provost-marshal's troops at City Point, is ordered to take command there, and you will report to him with your command for the defense. Is there any artillery at City Point?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
September 16, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
Depty. Prov. Mar. Gen., at Col. Gates' Office, City Point, Va.:

General Meade has sent a battery to report to Colonel Gates. Retain the men now on board of transports until developments of the day are seen. General Meade is under the impression the enemy have left, their object being to obtain the cattle herd, which they have gotten. Fort Powhatan is believed to be safe, as also the Point. Captain Brown is on the way to get his guns. He can have them, unless when he arrives they may be wanted for defense. Retain for the present your provisional battalion under Lieutenant-Colonel Hardenbergh.

By command of provost-marshal-general:

A. J. DALLAS,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 16, 1864.*

General PATRICK:

I have just received the following telegram:

One of our line builders just in from near Fort Powhatan. His teams, men, and material are captured. They were attacked about 5 a. m. to-day. It is supposed the cattle herd near that place is also taken.

T. B. GATES,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS POST AND DEFENSES,
City Point, Va., September 16, 1864—12.10 p. m.

Brigadier-General PATRICK, *Provost-Marshal-General:*

GENERAL: Major Van Rensselaer, whom I sent out this morning in command of the cavalry I had here and the Fifth Regular Cavalry, reports that he has advanced as far as Sycamore Church and met no enemy. He encountered some of our cavalry pickets, who report that the enemy's force consisted of three brigades, composed of cavalry, infantry, and artillery. They say the enemy are retreating with 2,500 cattle and are pursued by Gregg's cavalry. All quiet here. Colonel Sharpe has kept you advised of what we were doing here to defend the post.

T. B. GATES,
Colonel, &c.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 16, 1864—2.20 p. m.*

Brigadier-General PATRICK, *Provost-Marshal-General:*

GENERAL: Captain Hoysradt has just returned from Fort Powhatan. Major Lewis, commanding, states that he has a sufficient force to defend the works. No enemy has been seen or heard of in his vicinity. Telegraphic communication has not been restored. The battery from headquarters Army of the Potomac has reported.

T. B. GATES,
Colonel, &c.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 16, 1864—4.15 p. m.*

Brigadier-General PATRICK, *Provost-Marshal-General:*

GENERAL: Major Van Rensselaer and his command have returned. The attack on the cattle guard was made at daylight and was a complete surprise. Some 300 First District of Columbia Cavalry were captured, most of them in their beds. Major Baker was wounded and captured. Another major of same regiment also captured, and most of the officers of regiment; four herdsmen killed. Will send you a detailed report in morning.

T. B. GATES,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—10.15 a. m.

CORPS COMMANDERS:

Colonel Sharpe, at City Point, reports that a prisoner from the Seventh Virginia Cavalry, brought to him this morning, states that

Hampton's division, three brigades of cavalry, was concentrated last night, and moved across Stony Creek and by the shortest roads to Coggins' Point. This is the force that broke through our cavalry picket-line between Mount Sinai Church and Sycamore Church, and captured the herd of cattle on Ruffin's farm, Coggins' Point, and is probably now on its return to Stony Creek.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Colonel SMYTH,
Commanding Second Division, Second Corps:

The commanding general directs that you send a strong brigade immediately to report to General Kautz, near Prince George Court-House, and hold the remainder of your division ready to move at once in the same direction. Use dispatch, as the enemy's cavalry are there in some force, with artillery.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—8.30 a. m. (Received 9 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The enemy's cavalry have attacked in considerable force our cavalry line between the Blackwater and James, and successfully. Colonel Smyth, commanding Second Division of your corps, is ordered to send a brigade at once to General Kautz, near Prince George Court-House, and to hold the remainder of his division ready to move in that direction. The order was sent to him direct to save time.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

Dispatch received. I understood that Colonel Smyth has sent the brigade. I sent a staff officer to ascertain and to see that the brigade gets on the right road.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

Nothing of importance has transpired on my line since yesterday morning to report. The usual picket-firing has been kept up. Some

movements of troops by the enemy were observed yesterday afternoon and this morning. They have been reported to headquarters Army of the Potomac by the signal officers.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

Do you think the fort on the Norfolk road had better be occupied? General Mott tells me that he has been appointed a brevet major-general to date from September 9, 1864. He is at a loss to know who made him.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—11 a. m. (Received 11.10 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general thinks you had better send some infantry to the redoubt on the Norfolk road, say half a brigade and a battery of artillery.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—12 m. (Received 12.05 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding. Second Corps:

General Davies has moved all his available cavalry down the plank road to intercept Hampton's cavalry on its return. The commanding general directs that you send a strong brigade with a battery of artillery down the plank road to the fork of the road leading to Reams' Station to cover the flank and rear of the cavalry during the operation. The troops you send will withdraw to their former camp as soon as the cavalry returns.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864. (Received 12.15 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS:

I have ordered a strong brigade (they are not very strong in the First and Second Divisions) to the forks of the plank and Reams' Station roads with a battery of artillery, to return when the cavalry do.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commander of the brigade sent down the plank road should report to General Davies and receive his instructions as to the disposition of his troops. If he should not find General Davies, who may be with his troops in pursuit of the enemy, he will dispose of them according to his own judgment.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864. (Received 1 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The commander of the brigade sent down the plank road will be ordered to report to General Davies if he meets him; otherwise to look out for himself according to his best judgment.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—12.50 p. m. (Received 1 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general is of opinion that the brigade sent down the plank road should be not less than 1,500 strong, and if the one sent is of less strength than that it should be re-enforced.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The brigade sent down the plank road is more than 1,500 strong.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—3.45 p. m. (Received 4 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The cavalry pickets between the plank road and the Blackwater have been ordered to be withdrawn and the force sent down the plank road to join General Davies.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Major-General Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864—4.15 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have sent a brigade and battery to the Finn house, on the plank road. Have one brigade in the fort on the Norfolk road. I have directed a picket-line to be established between the Norfolk road and the plank road.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. J. HUNT,
Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac:

I have the honor to report no change observed in the enemy's lines during the past twenty-four hours and no firing. Burton's (Eleventh New York) battery now occupies the work on the right of the plank [road] formerly occupied by Ricketts' (F, First Pennsylvania).

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. M. EDGELL,
Captain, Commanding.

(Copy to Capt. W. P. Wilson, acting assistant adjutant-general, Second Corps.)

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864.

Lieut. Col. JAMES E. MCGEE,
Commanding Consolidated Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you have your brigade in readiness to move at dusk to the place occupied by you on Tuesday night, where the troops will bivouac until sunrise, unless otherwise ordered. A staff officer from these headquarters will be at your headquarters at dusk and will conduct the troops.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 16, 1864.

Capt. W. P. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: In compliance with orders from corps headquarters, I have the honor to report that I now have my line fully established, with the right resting on the Norfolk railroad and the left at the Strong house. The different forts along my front are garrisoned with a full complement of men. There have been no changes in the enemy's line during the past twenty-four hours. A constant picket-firing is kept up by both sides along my entire front.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
September 16, 1864—7.15 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy are now skirmishing with us on the Vaughan road and toward Petersburg. Firing is very light so far.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864—8.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy, with a strong skirmish line, are trying to drive mine in on the north side, and a portion of the line has fallen back.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

(Same to General Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The following dispatch is sent for your information. This morning at daylight Hampton's division of cavalry, three brigades, broke through our cavalry picket-line between Zion and Sycamore Church and carried off, or are carrying off, the cattle herd near Coggins' Point. Orders have been given for attacking them:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 16, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following report from the plank road station is respectfully forwarded:

"The remaining camps to the right of and in vicinity of the large fort beyond the Weldon railroad are struck and the men lounging in rear of works. Indications are that a considerable force is in woods to the right of the fort. No movements visible and no working parties in view."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864. (Received 11.15 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Will you please inform me how many cattle you think were in the herd captured by Hampton?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864. (Sent 12.15 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The cattle herd referred to was Colonel Morgan's, commissary for both armies. Probably 2,000 head. Whether all or part and what part was captured I do not yet know.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The following is sent for your information:

HALIFAX ROAD SIGNAL STATION—2.40 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

About half an hour ago two pieces of artillery passed to the left on the Boydton plank road, and about 300 men moved back from the enemy's skirmish line, going toward his works left of the lead-works. The enemy's works along the Boydton plank road appear to have but few men in them, and no tents as heretofore.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, Signal Corps.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Reports just received from our extreme picket-posts state that all is quiet in front. Enemy have not been seen since this morning on the Reams' Station road, and have only a picket in sight near the forks of the other road, west.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that your troops be held in readiness for action at any moment, as they may be called upon this morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864—7 a. m.

General GRIFFIN:

If the enemy makes any serious demonstration to our left of your position I wish you at once to make disposition to meet it and let me know.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864—9 a. m.

General AYRES:

Don't give the enemy's pickets any rest till they fall back and our line is re-established. They may be getting batteries in position to open in connection with an attack on the west and south later in the day. We must get the earliest possible intelligence of them.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864.

Lieut. Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that Colonel Winthrop has shoved out the picket-line, and it is established as before.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

(Copies forwarded to General Humphreys and General Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864. (Received 7 a. m.)

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Third Division, Fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you hold your troops in readiness for action at any moment they may be called upon through the day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet on my front during the past twenty-four hours, excepting some skirmishing on the left, which began about 7.30 a. m. It commenced on General Warren's front and

gradually extended to our line. The enemy advanced a line of skirmishers. I directed that our line be re-enforced, if necessary, and line maintained. The firing has ceased. No change in position of enemy opposite our center and left has been observed. Two vedettes Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers are reported missing. Probably deserted in the night, although no trace of arms or accouterments are to be found. A deserter from the Thirty-fourth North Carolina, Scales' brigade, came in about daylight this morning; conscripted August 6; says that about 10 a. m. yesterday his division was moved to their right; moved back in the evening to their old position; was posted as vedette this a. m.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

Dispatch of 8.30 just received.* The enemy has been pressing our skirmish line on the left. I have directed it to be re-enforced, if necessary, and held to the last.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864—10.10 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Army Corps:

The left of my line was retired somewhat, but the division commander reports that it has been advanced again in conjunction with the right of your line.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—7.40 a. m.

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

Reports from General Kautz show a sharp attack on his line of pickets between Zion Church and the James River at daylight this morning, in which at least two companies have been used up. Colonel Wilson, chief commissary of subsistence, reports that he is informed that the large cattle herd near Coggins' Point has been attacked and probably is now being driven off. The commanding general directs that you get together all your available force and attack the parties and endeavor to recover the cattle. You will leave the force you have on picket.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

The operator at Second Corps headquarters will send this by orderly to General Davies, at General Gregg's headquarters.

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* See Warren to Humphreys and Parke, p. 864.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 16, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Upon the information in your last communication,* I will move all the available force of this division down the Jerusalem plank road, instructing General Kautz to move out in pursuit, with a view to cutting them off between here and the river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—10.15 a. m. (Received 10.30 a. m.)

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry, near Williams' House:

A brigade of infantry and a battery of artillery has been sent to General Kautz. He reports that he will move with all his available force against the enemy in the direction of Sycamore Church, leaving the infantry at Prince George Court-House.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—12 m. (Received 1 p. m.)

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry:

General Hancock is directed to send a strong brigade of infantry and a battery of artillery down the plank road as far as the branch road to Reams' Station to cover the flank and rear of your cavalry during its operations. The commander will be directed to report to you if he should find you; if not, to post his troops according to his own judgment.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 16, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Your dispatches have been received, and a later one from General Kautz stating part of his picket-line has been cut off. I have sent one brigade down the Jerusalem plank road to cover it as far as the Nottoway River. With the other and Kautz's command I shall move through Prince George Court-House toward Cocke's Mill, and scour the country between the James and Blackwater.

Respectfully,

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

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* See 9.20 a. m., p. 856.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—3.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry:
(Through headquarters Second Corps.)

A dispatch from General Kautz, at Sycamore Church, at 12.30 p. m., states that the enemy's cavalry passed through there with the cattle about sunrise, taking the road leading south. The commanding general considers that the cavalry force picketing between the plank road and the Blackwater may be withdrawn and united with your force in pursuit of the enemy. General Kautz is directed to that effect, but he is so far off that much delay would occur in waiting for it to be done through him. You will please have it done direct to save time. You will, of course, call on the infantry brigade for support should you need it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—Any staff officer at General Davies' headquarters will proceed to carry out this order about the pickets if General Davies should be absent.

A. A. H.,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY,
Proctor's, Jerusalem Plank Road, September 16, 1864—10.30 p. m.
(Received 2 a. m. 17th.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff.

GENERAL: I reached this point at 12.30 p. m.; hence sent a brigade down the Jerusalem plank road to intercept the enemy. I met them at a point about five miles hence, and drove them about a mile to the vicinity of Hawkinsville, where they were found strongly posted behind earthworks, and having in their front an impassable swamp. I moved down the rest of my command to that point on being informed that they were in force, but found it impossible to dislodge them. I learned from a prisoner that the force on my front was W. H. F. Lee's division. From what I learned of the movements of the cattle train and the time occupied, I concluded it was useless to make further attempts to recapture on that road. I therefore returned to this point, whence I sent a brigade to Stony Creek to endeavor to intercept the head of their column by that route. I have had no communication with General Kautz, but I have sent a staff officer to ascertain his whereabouts and how he is doing, with instructions, if he has no prospects of overtaking them shortly, to return to Prince George Court-House.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the enemy have opened upon us with their artillery; but one gun thus far has been discovered. They seem to have quite a strong position, but with some help we may do something.

Very respectfully,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—They (enemy) still hold barricades. We heard one shot, supposed to be Kautz, on the left.

H. C. WEIR.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
September 16, 1864.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division, Cavalry Corps:

I have the honor to report all quiet along the line of Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry. Captain Seip, commanding pickets Second Pennsylvania Cavalry, furnishes the following:

Lieutenant Lynch, on duty on the Lee's Mill road, reports that all was quiet along his line up to 4 o'clock this morning. A few rebels made their appearance on his extreme left. He observed signal-lights at 2 a. m. in a southeasterly direction. There was considerable firing by General Kautz's pickets some distance from his lines. A few wagons were heard on the left of plank road. Nothing has been seen or heard of the party of rebels that broke through General Kautz's command.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY,
September 16, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for information of the general commanding. It is very quiet on right of my line.

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *September 16, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Hampton's division, three brigades of cavalry, made an attack on our left this morning and captured the cattle herd near Coggins' Point. It is thought at headquarters Army of the Potomac that City Point may possibly be attacked, and the question is asked of Colonel Gates, commanding the post, if there is any artillery here. There is none. It is suggested by Colonel Parker, of General Grant's staff, that the same be reported to you, and that a request be made to have such disposition made of the gun-boats as will remedy the want of artillery here.

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
September 16, 1864. (Received 10.50 a. m.)

Colonel SHARPE,
Provost-Marshal-General, City Point, Va.:

I have sent a copy of your dispatch about the probable attack at City Point to Capt. M. Smith, U. S. Navy, up the river, and directed General Graham to move his army gun-boats now in the Appomattox at once to City Point to co-operate in case of an attack.

By order of Major-General Butler:

GEO. A. KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing new on my line. The enemy have mounted a gun, apparently an 8-inch columbiad, en barbette, bearing on Redoubt No. 3. Will try and dismount it during the morning.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Another deserter says that during yesterday and last night regiments were picked from Hoke's division and marched to the left [of] our line near Weldon railroad. He thought that four regiments were taken. This was not substantiated by other deserter, but he seemed a bright fellow and confident of fact.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 16, 1864.

Brig. Gen. SETH WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: In reply to the circular from headquarters Army of the Potomac, I have the honor to recommend that the redoubts on my line be named, commencing on the right, McGilvery, Brooks, Plimpton, Henderson—in honor of Lieutenant-Colonel McGilvery, chief of artillery of the corps, who died from effects of wounds received at Deep Run, August 16, 1864; of First Lieut. J. Howard Brooks, First New York Engineers, killed August 5, 1864, while in performance of his duty on Redoubt No. 2; and of Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton, Third New Hampshire Volunteers, and Lieut. Col. T. A. Henderson, Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers, both killed August 16, 1864, at the battle of Deep Run. These gentlemen have an unblemished reputation in the army,

and their memories are deeply cherished by their brothers in arms, and their names have been selected with great unanimity as to the peculiar features and merit of the intended honor.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 16, 1864.

Capt. A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report all quiet on the line of my command. No movements of importance, either offensive or defensive, have been made from our lines, nor seem to have been from the enemy's. The officer of the trenches reports: "Nothing except the usual picket-firing has occurred during the night along the brigade." No casualties have occurred in the last twenty-four hours.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. VORIS,
Colonel Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, Comdg. First Brigade.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 95. } *Near Petersburg, Va., September 16, 1864.*

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VII. Col. Rufus Daggett, One hundred and seventeenth New York Volunteers, will assume command of the First Brigade, Second Division, during the temporary absence of Col. N. M. Curtis.

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By order of Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster:

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864. (Sent 3.15 p. m.)

Major-General GIBBON,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

If any officers of high rank belonging to the Eighteenth Corps were killed at Cold Harbor or Petersburg the commanding general desires to have their names, in order to name three redoubts on our line around Petersburg. These redoubts are on the front formerly occupied by the Eighteenth Corps. Please let me have an early reply, as the list is full, with the exception of the three mentioned.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HATCHER'S, VA., *September 16, 1864.*
(Received 10.05 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The only officer of high rank in this corps who has not a redoubt named after him on this line is Col. G. A. Stedman, Eleventh Connecticut, mortally wounded August 5, at Petersburg. I have the names of several captains, which I can send, should you desire it.

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
September 16, 1864.

Major-General GIBBON:

An order has been issued ordering the Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops to report to Major Ludlow, Dutch Gap. A copy will be sent you.

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 16, 1864—6 a. m.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: I have to report that my pickets have been driven back from their line from Mount Sinai Church to the Powhatan stage road, and the commanding officer of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry thinks quite a number of horses have been captured. There was an attack on the line of the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry last night, in which the force was estimated from thirty to seventy strong. The present attack I do not yet consider serious, as the reserves have not been disturbed yet. I think the attack is in retaliation for those we killed the other day.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 16, 1864—7 a. m.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: The enemy have pushed in on the Powhatan stage road and cut off the First District of Columbia Cavalry. We have had no communication with them this morning. The firing is quite lively in the direction of the Powhatan stage road. A squadron of the Third New York has just been sent out on the stage road and seems to have found the rebels holding the intrenchments at the cross-road of the City Point and Powhatan stage road. The firing at present has ceased, and Colonel Jacobs' message says that he had ordered the enemy dislodged. I am fearful that the First District of Columbia may be

entrapped, as their position has always been an exposed one. Should such prove the case, the enemy could best be intercepted on the Jerusalem plank road on their return.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

I send a dispatch just received. The firing is receding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 16, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The enemy have advanced to the cross-roads where the Powhatan stage road and the Mount Sinai and City Point road cross. They have thus cut off the First District of Columbia Cavalry at Sycamore Church. Citizens in from the vicinity of the picket-line say the enemy have two pieces of artillery. A courier just in, who was sent to communicate with the First District of Columbia Cavalry, returns and reports that he could not get through, as he met three companies of rebel cavalry on the road leading from Mount Sinai Church to City Point. I have sent the Third New York to open communication with the First District of Columbia Cavalry. The enemy's pickets have taken up posts in front of Mount Sinai Church. The line to the west of Mount Sinai Church has not been molested since early last night. I have communicated all I know up to the present time to General Gregg. It is needless to say that I have no force to resist a serious attack. I believe the enemy to have planned the capture of the First District of Columbia Cavalry, which I think was their object, and I fear they have succeeded. The reports go to show that the entire line was attacked about daylight from about a mile east of Mount Sinai Church to Sycamore Church.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—There has been but very little firing since your staff officer left here, and what has been heard seems to be receding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—8 a. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

Have you heard from your regiment at Cocke's Mill? Whatever available force you have should be sent in that direction to attempt the recovery of the cattle if practicable.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

8 A. M.

I have sent you all the information I have received from the regiment at Sycamore Church. I hear the enemy's artillery, which I judge to be at Green's house, on the stage road.

Very respectfully,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 16, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: The attack has developed itself as a foray on the cattle herd and the First District of Columbia Cavalry, although nothing definite has been heard from that direction, as the enemy hold the road at Rollins', and I hear the enemy's artillery, which I judge to be about Green's house, this side of Rollins'. The Third New York has been sent down there to hold them in check, and if possible to drive them back. The attack on the Fifth, which was obscure as to place, I think was near the railroad, and I judge only to have been a demonstration to draw attention from the attack on the cattle. I did not know that the cattle were there until this morning. I still hold the line from a mile or two east of Mount Sinai Church to your line. Not more than three companies have been reported at one place, but the attack was general all along the line east of Mount Sinai Church. The enemy's pickets are in sight in front of Mount Sinai. I have sent all the information I have to army headquarters. They have just sent an infantry brigade to report to me. I will push down the Powhatan road with the cavalry and leave the infantry to hold Prince George Court-House.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—8.40 a. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ, *Commanding Cavalry Division:*

Colonel Smyth, commanding Second Division, Second Corps, is ordered to send you a brigade of infantry immediately, and to hold the remainder of his division ready to follow. General Hunt will send you a battery of artillery. So far as you have learned, will the brigade be sufficient for you to attack and drive off the enemy about Mount Zion [Sinai] Church, or will you require the division? The whole division is not more than 3,000 strong.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 16, 1864—8.50 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Your note of 8.40 a. m. has been received. I will leave the infantry brigade and the artillery at Prince George Court-House and concentrate all the cavalry I can, and with a section I will push

down to Sycamore Church, if possible. I cannot tell how much force the enemy have, but I suspect they must have two or three regiments. I fear the enemy will be gone before I can get there, as I suspect the whole movement to be the capture of the cattle and the First District of Columbia Cavalry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 16, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. V. KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to say a dispatch from headquarters Army of the Potomac indicates that an attack has been made on the cattle herd at Coggins' Point. You will, after strengthening your picket-line, send a strong party to Cocke's Mill to obtain information, and follow to that point with the rest of your command and attack the enemy, and delay their movements if practicable. The Second Division will move to that point and be guided by whatever information you can obtain. Send reports as often as you can learn anything of consequence.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 16, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Your dispatch has been received. I had already made my arrangements to move down to Sycamore Church with the Third New York and Eleventh Pennsylvania to try and communicate with the First District of Columbia Cavalry. I have sent you all the information I possessed up to the present time. I have no doubt the cattle guard and the First District of Columbia Cavalry have been captured or routed, as they were not calculated to offer much resistance, posted as they were. I shall leave the Fifth Pennsylvania as it is. A brigade of infantry will hold Prince George Court-House whilst I move down the stage road.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—10 a. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

A report from Colonel Sharpe, deputy provost-marshal at City Point, telegraphs that he has just received a prisoner from Seventh Virginia

Cavalry, who states that Hampton's division, three brigades, was concentrated last night, crossed Stony Creek, and moved on the shortest line toward the Coggins Point.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

ROLLINS' HOUSE, [*September 16, 1864*]—*11.30 a. m.*

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Mr. Rollins informs me that Major Belcher stopped at his house and said that their force was 14,000 strong; that they had cavalry and infantry; that they captured 2,460 head of cattle, and that the First District of Columbia Cavalry had escaped in the direction of Fort Powhatan. Major Belcher is in command of the Mounted Home Guards. Mr. Rollins says about 3,000 of the enemy passed his house toward City Point and returned. A portion of the enemy's force left this road near here going toward the Blackwater, said to be about a brigade. I have not yet learned the road on which the main force passed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—I have only about 500 men and two pieces of artillery.

HEADQUARTERS,
Sycamore Church, September 16, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: General Hampton has captured all the cattle and taken them away on the road leading south from this point. I shall pursue them and endeavor to annoy them as much as possible. About 150 of the First District of Columbia Cavalry have been captured. About 100 are now collected here under Captain Speers, First District of Columbia Cavalry. Four dead of his regiment are lying here, and he has also about ten or more wounded. The attack was only to capture the cattle, and they did not seem to care much for the prisoners. They have several hours the start of me. The cattle left here about sunrise. I do not think they can drive the cattle very far before they break down. Majors Baker, Cloudman, and Captain Gregg, are reported captured.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—3 p. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

Your report of 12.30 p. m. from Sycamore Church is received. The commanding general thinks that as General Davies has moved down the plank road in pursuit of the enemy, your force picketing between

the plank road and the Blackwater may be drawn in and sent to join General Davies. Please have it done and orders issued for the prompt movement of the force down the plank road to join General Davies, as it can reach him more readily than you. You had better direct the brigade of infantry sent you this morning to follow and support you. I will also notify the staff at General Davies' headquarters to draw in your pickets between plank road and Blackwater and send them to General Davies; but I do not know that he has left any staff at his headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

A detachment of 500 cavalry, under the command of Major Van Rensellaer (Sixth United States and Third Pennsylvania), part of provost-marshal-general's force at City Point, has been ordered to follow and join you.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 16, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division, near Sycamore Church:

It was erroneously reported to me that the force under Major Van Rensselaer was 500 strong. It is less than 100 strong, and the order to it has been countermanded.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE,
Mount Sinai Church, September 16, 1864.

Captain ASCH,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

The rebels have certainly been in our rear and up the stage road for some distance. I can't hear from Major Baker, and do not believe that a messenger could get through. The rebel pickets are one-quarter of a mile in advance of ours on Powhatan road. The time of attack looks more serious than anything that has yet occurred. Companies D and B, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, have lost nearly all their horses; at least eighty, we think. Captain Titus has about forty-five more at the cross-road, but we have no men to send out on reconnaissance, and really don't know what the rebs are doing.

Yours,

WETHERILL,
Major.

MOUNT SINAI CHURCH, *September 16, 1864—5.15 a. m.*

Major WETHERILL,
Commanding Brigade:

MAJOR: I have just received a report that Companies B and D have been driven off their position and have fallen back toward E Company.

The report came from E Company by a sergeant. I have ordered Company M to go down immediately. Will let you know as soon as I get more definite information. There has been no firing for fifteen minutes.

Respectfully,

FRANKLIN A. STRATTON,
Major, Commanding Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry.

All is quiet here. It hardly seems a serious attack. A man just in from Captain McFarlan's company says those two companies have been driven back on the straight road (stage road) for a mile; thus the rebs are in between E and the old post of D and B. Many horses are lost in Companies D and B. The enemy are reported as coming up the main road, this behind E, but I haven't this certain.

[Indorsement.]

5.30 A. M.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Humphreys for his information.

The attack seems to be for some distance along the line.

Very respectfully,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 17, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Harper's Ferry:

I send you the reports* of Generals Davies and Kautz, in command of the cavalry sent in pursuit of the enemy, by which you will find the enemy was prepared for any attempt on our part to recapture the cattle. The distance to be marched—over fifteen miles in Davies' case and thirty in Kautz's—would have prevented any infantry force from reaching the scene of action in time. This consideration, together with the undeveloped movements of the enemy toward his right and my left, prevented me from detaching any considerable force of infantry to aid in the attempt to recover the cattle. These movements have been previously reported, being the moving of a considerable body of infantry and artillery on the Boydton plank road on the 15th instant, the return of which is as yet unknown. In addition, deserters, particularly one from the north side of the James, state it was reported by their officers Lee was making a great flank movement, and to-day Colonel Sharpe sends information (dispatch transmitted) that the Government employés in Richmond had been ordered to Petersburg. Yesterday I informed you signal officers north of the Appomattox reported the movement into Petersburg of troops on the Richmond road, and a deserter stated he had about the same time seen troops marching through Petersburg, said to be part of Early's forces, who, it was stated, had sent back 6,000 troops. There may be nothing in all this, but so many reports from different sources would lead to the conclusion that some movement is on foot—whether it be offensive, or whether it is, that seeing in our journals the reports of large accessions daily received by this army,

* See pp. 891, 896.

Lee is merely preparing for an anticipated extension of our lines, I am unable to say; but the existence of these reports and the movements known have combined to produce caution on my part during your absence. I deem it proper to call your attention to the small force of cavalry under my command. For ordinary purposes, and were the enemy without cavalry, it would be ample, but in the presence of the enemy's superior forces, this arm of the service is unable to accomplish anything. In yesterday's operations the lowest estimate of the enemy's forces made by prisoners and deserters is 6,000, and called suddenly, as our troops were, without time to draw in pickets and detachments, I question whether the combined commands that went in pursuit amounted to 3,000. With this superiority, a knowledge of the country, and preparations made to meet pursuit, it is hardly fair to expect much more than what was accomplished, though I hoped the difficulty of driving the cattle and the chances of war might prove more favorable to us. There is nothing else to report up to this hour.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—General Birney has just telegraphed that a deserter, in this morning, reports Hoke's division withdrawn from his front, and that it has gone to General Lee at Reams' Station. This may mean General W. H. F. Lee, commanding cavalry, and to cover the withdrawal of the cavalry, or it may be part of an offensive movement.

[Inclosure.]

CITY POINT, *September 17, 1864—1 p. m.*

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Yesterday evening the battalion of Government employés in Richmond were ordered to assemble this morning with the understanding that they would be sent to Petersburg. Reports will shortly be sent you.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

SEPTEMBER 17, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Deserters to-day from Wise's and Ransom's brigades, of Johnson's division, corroborate fully the information received yesterday of the movement of Hoke's division to the right—supposed to Reams' Station; also movement of other troops from Hill's corps. A large force of infantry, at least four or five brigades, from some point north of the Appomattox, passed through Petersburg on Wednesday eve and Thursday morning last. Eight prisoners sent in to-day from cavalry—representing that W. H. F. Lee's and Butler's divisions of cavalry and two battalions of artillery comprised the late raiding party, Hampton in command and W. H. F. Lee holding plank road to save their being cut off.

J. C. B[ABCOCK].

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 17, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The following prisoners of war have been forwarded: One from the Third North Carolina Cavalry, Barringer's brigade, W. H. F. Lee's division; three from the Fifth North Carolina Cavalry, Barringer's brigade, W. H. F. Lee's division, taken near Rector's house, on the Jerusalem plank road; also forwarded from Kautz's division, two from McGregor's battery, Stuart Horse Artillery; one from Second North Carolina Cavalry, Barringer's brigade, W. H. F. Lee's division; one from Jeff. Davis Legion, Young's brigade, Butler's division; eight in all. From them we learn that the force sent out to capture the cattle herd amounted to two divisions and two batteries of artillery. The divisions were W. H. F. Lee's and Butler's; the batteries, McGregor's, two guns, and Dearing's, four guns. Part of W. H. F. Lee's division was left near Lee's Mill, on the Jerusalem plank road, to protect Butler's division from being cut off by any force of ours advancing on that road. All agree that no infantry accompanied the expedition. They all desire to be exchanged.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 17, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Two deserters have just been forwarded from the headquarters Tenth Army Corps, one from the Forty-sixth Virginia, Wise's brigade, the other from Ransom's brigade, Forty-ninth North Carolina Regiment, both of Bushrod Johnson's division. They came into our lines early this a. m. Their information corroborates that received yesterday regarding the withdrawal of Hoke's division, and the extension of Johnson's division from the Burnside mine to the Appomattox. It was generally understood that three divisions had been sent down the Weldon road, some thought to Reams' Station. They state that a member of their division saw three or four brigades in Petersburg last Wednesday night that had just come from some place north of the Appomattox River. They have no further information of any importance.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
September 17, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Our men returned from over the river this morning, having during the night met two of our agents who left Richmond yesterday, from one of whom eleven refugees from Richmond were received and brought within our lines. The refugees left Richmond last evening after dark. The other agent spoken of left Richmond in the morning, and from the agents and refugees the following information is obtained: The rumors about the evacuation of Petersburg were quite

as extensive as heretofore reported, and were believed by the people at large. One of our agents, an intelligent man, having more than ordinary facilities, sends me word that such a move was really contemplated; that it was intended to withdraw the enemy's lines about eight miles, or to the neighborhood of Proctor's Creek, thereby making a line which would be shorter, and by holding it with less troops would enable them to dispose of some by sending them to North Carolina. It is not known why it is talked of sending troops to North Carolina, but there was such a report, and people generally understand that a division has been held in readiness to go south, and one of the refugees tells me that he had it from personal friends, having relatives in Pickett's division, who received letters from their friends in the division, saying that night before last Pickett was to leave and go south, either to North Carolina or Georgia. One of the agents spoken of also sends me word that Pickett's division had left. Last night the different battalions composed of Government workmen were called out. This is no longer done by the ringing of the bell, as used to be the case, but the sergeants of the different companies notify the members. Upon assembling last evening they again dispersed, after receiving orders to reassemble this morning, and it was understood that they would be taken to the lines about Petersburg to remain there a short time. Nothing is known in Richmond of the return of any part of Early's forces from the Valley. It is not expected that any portion of Hood's army will be sent this way; but, on the contrary, it is believed that it will be necessary to re-enforce Hood. Rations are issued to the men in the different Government factories. Week before last no meat was issued to them, and this lasted for ten days. During that time also the negroes employed by the Government could get no rations, and it was with difficulty that they were kept at work. There is said to be a great want of iron for the manufacture of guns, and in the factory of Joseph R. Anderson, the largest manufacturer in Richmond, no iron suitable for making nails or spikes has been on hand for two weeks past. Negroes are employed in gathering scrap iron wherever it may be found. Provisions are again advancing, and women and non-producers can get permission to go North by crossing the lower Rappahannock and Potomac, and it is said that the blockade is continually run in that direction. Files of Richmond papers of yesterday are inclosed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

NOTE.—The infantry seen passing through Petersburg day before yesterday by deserters may have been Pickett's division, as it was stated it came from the north side of the Appomattox.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 17, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

A battery of six pieces of artillery, heretofore lying in the vicinity of Whitehead's Factory, moved this morning on the road toward Richmond.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

WALTHALL STATION, *September 17, 1864—6 p. m.*

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

The following was intercepted:

10 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Ten wagons passed on road rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's front in Prince George. Twelve wagons passed on the road going toward Cobb's.

J. Q. E.,
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

11.05 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

At 10.50 a steamer came up the river and hove to above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 17, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

The following was intercepted:

12 M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

A train of wagons passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's front in Prince George.

J. Q. E.,
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

1.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

A train of seventeen wagons passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's front in Prince George.

J. Q. ETHEREDGE,
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 17, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

All quiet this p. m. Have not been able to learn anything more from enemy's works near lead mines. The following was just intercepted:

Colonel B[RENT]:

All quiet this p. m. Gun-boat above pontoon. Change the time to 5.50.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 17, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch from plank road signal station is respectfully forwarded:

At 4.15 p. m. an extensive movement of the enemy toward our right was made apparent by a very heavy cloud of dust to the left of lead-works and beyond the river. The main movement was on a concealed road, and such bodies as moved on the road in sight were most of the time concealed by the dust. It lifted, however, long enough for me to see two batteries of artillery pass. The column was an hour in passing.

THICKSTUN,
Captain, Signal Corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 17, 1864.

Major FISHER:

The camp of enemy to left and west of Whitehead's Factory has been removed this p. m.; an artillery camp in same vicinity also disappeared. A camp, apparently hospital, still farther west and across Richmond pike, has also been removed some time during day; cannot say what course they have taken. Dust west of city about same as previous three or four days. Ordinary working parties are on new fort; also small party on batteries west by southwest of station.

JORDAN.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 17, 1864—9 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: No changes have been made on General Mott's lines since yesterday's report. The usual picket-firing continues. One brigade of the Second Division of this corps reported to General Kautz yesterday morning at Prince George Court-House; a brigade and one battery of the Second Division occupies the fort near the Norfolk road; one brigade of the First Division and one battery sent to report yesterday to General Davies at the junction of the Reams' Station and plank road; one brigade and one battery of the First Division occupies the works in front of the Finn house on the plank road; my pickets cover the front between the plank road and the Blackwater.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 17, 1864—9.45 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

General Miles informs me that Colonel Wilson, commanding the brigade of the First Division of the Second Corps at the junction of

the Reams' Station and plank road, had not reported to General Davies late last night, not having been able to find him. General Miles has sent a staff officer this morning to find General Davies and to report the position of the brigade to him.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 17, 1864—10.40 a. m. (Received 10.50 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch of 9.45 a. m. received. General Davies knew the brigade was at the intersection of the Reams' Station road. A dispatch was received from him dated 10.30 p. m. He had come up to the enemy crossing the plank road twelve miles beyond the Williams house. They were strongly posted and he could not dislodge them. He had sent a brigade to endeavor to reach round to the right and strike the head of the column.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 17, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The cavalry is in and the infantry is following on the plank road. I should be pleased to know your intentions concerning the brigades at the Finn house and at the fort on the Norfolk road at your convenience. If the brigade of infantry at Prince George is to remain there I should like to be informed, so that proper arrangements can be made by them for a sojourn; and while they are there I desire to know if they remain under the orders of General Kautz, so that there may be no confusion.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 17, 1864—1.05 p. m. (Received 1.15 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I was about telegraphing you when your dispatch was received. The commanding general thinks the brigade at Finn's may be withdrawn to its former position. The brigade on the Norfolk road and artillery there he prefers should remain, as they are available at that place as reserves for the front line. The brigade at Prince George Court-House should also remain there for the present, as a redoubt is to be thrown up at that place. This brigade will be under the orders of the division commander, and not under those of General Kautz; it should be considered part of the reserve force as regards the front line.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I consider it of the highest importance that as many as possible of the officers of the Second Corps now absent who are able to perform duty in the field be returned at once. As an example showing deficiency of officers of the Second Corps, the First Division, comprising twenty-six regiments or battalions, has only 140 officers present, including field, staff, and line. The Second Corps cannot be relied upon for great service without its officers, the best of whom, with few exceptions, are absent. With good officers to have commanded the men I could have won a decided victory at Reams' Station, aside from other considerations. The failure to perform all that has been demanded of the troops of this command lately has been owing to the great deficiency in this respect. If the Second Corps, after its great losses, is to be relied upon as a power this fall it can only fulfill expectations by giving it its best officers. A very large proportion of the additions being made to the command consists of new men, who require instruction, discipline, and example.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to recommend the following-named officers for promotion by brevet or otherwise. The two first named were omitted from the list previously sent:

First. Brig. Gen. A. S. Webb—for distinguished conduct at Gettysburg, where he was slightly wounded; at Bristoe Station, October 14, 1863; at the battle of the Wilderness, and at Spotsylvania, May 12, where he was severely wounded. To date from day of appointment.

Second. Col. G. N. Macy, Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteers—for distinguished conduct at the battle of the Wilderness, and at Deep Bottom, August 14, while commanding his brigade in an assault on the enemy's works. This officer lost an arm at Gettysburg, returned to his command when the army moved from its winter camp, was severely wounded in the battle of the Wilderness, returned to his command August 12, 1864, and was again wounded August 14, 1864. To date August 14, 1864.

Third. Maj. John G. Hazard, First Rhode Island Light Artillery—for distinguished services and good conduct throughout the campaign, especially at Cold Harbor, Va. To date June 3, 1864.

STAFF OF MAJOR-GENERAL HANCOCK.

First. Lieut. Col. C. H. Morgan, assistant inspector-general, chief of staff—for distinguished and valuable services throughout the campaign, especially at the Wilderness, and at Spotsylvania, May 12. Brevet colonel from May 6, and brevet brigadier-general from May 12,

1864. This officer has been chief of staff of the corps since the fall of 1862, and has been present in all the actions in which the corps has been engaged. He has been several times recommended for appointment as brigadier-general for distinguished service.

Second. Lieut. Col. Francis A. Walker, assistant adjutant-general—for distinguished service and good conduct throughout the campaign. This officer has been assistant adjutant-general of the corps since the fall of 1862. He was wounded at Chancellorsville and taken prisoner at Reams' Station, August 25. To date from August 25, 1864.

Third. Maj. William G. Mitchell, aide-de-camp—for meritorious and distinguished conduct and for gallantry in action, especially at the Wilderness May 6, and at Spotsylvania May 12, 1864. Brevet lieutenant-colonel to date from May 6, and brevet-colonel from May 12. This officer has been with me as senior aide since the beginning of the war, and has distinguished himself in every battle in which I have been engaged.

Fourth. Capt. I. B. Parker, aide-de-camp—for gallantry and good conduct throughout the campaign. This officer was wounded at the first Fredericksburg, and has been with me in every important engagement in which I have taken part since the war. To date May 6.

Fifth. Capt. W. D. W. Miller, aide-de-camp—for gallantry and good conduct throughout the campaign. This officer was wounded at the first Fredericksburg, and twice wounded at Gettysburg. He has been with me in all engagements since Antietam. Previous to this he was on the staff of Major-General Richardson. To date May 12, 1864.

Sixth. Surg. A. N. Dougherty, medical director—for untiring devotion to the duties of his profession and for his bravery on the field. This officer was wounded at the Po, May 10, 1864. To date May 10, 1864.

Seventh. Capt. H. H. Bingham, One hundred and fortieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and judge advocate Second Army Corps—for good conduct and conspicuous gallantry, especially at the Wilderness, May 6, 1864, when he collected a considerable party of stragglers and led them against the enemy with marked gallantry; and at Spotsylvania, May 12, where he voluntarily took part with his regiment in the assault and was wounded. He was also wounded at Gettysburg. To date May 6, 1864.

Eighth. Capt. W. P. Wilson, One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers—for gallantry and good conduct throughout the campaign, especially at the Wilderness, at Spotsylvania, and Reams' Station, August 25. To date May 12, 1864.

Ninth. Asst. Surg. Charles Smart—for attention to the duties of his profession and for service on the field. To date from day of appointment.

The dates of the above appointments have been arranged as in my opinion the officers should take rank, and in accordance with the just claims of the different officers for advancement.

STAFF OF THE FIRST DIVISION.

Capt. Silas J. Marlin, One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and division inspector—for gallantry at Reams' Station, August 25, and at other actions during the campaign.

Capt. William R. Driver, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers—for gallantry at Reams' Station, August 25.

Capt. Nathan Church, Twenty-sixth Michigan Volunteers, and brigade inspector First Brigade, First Division—for gallantry in action before Petersburg, June 16.

First Lieut. John D. Black, One hundred and forty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, aide-de-camp—for gallantry at Reams' Station, August 25, 1864.

First Lieut. John B. Hallenbeck, Sixty-first Pennsylvania [New York] Volunteers, aide-de-camp, First Brigade, First Division—for gallantry in action before Petersburg, Va., June 16, 1864.

STAFF OF THE SECOND DIVISION.

Capt. A. Henry Embler, aide-de-camp and commissary of musters—for gallant and meritorious conduct during the campaign. To date August 25, 1864.

Lieut. Edward M. Du Bois—for gallant services at the battles of the Wilderness and Spotsylvania. To rank from May 18, 1864.

A few recommendations have been received from the Third Division of the corps, but the list requires investigation, which I have not time to give and include the list in this report, and I therefore postpone the matter for a subsequent report.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 30. } *Before Petersburg, September 17, 1864.*

The major-general commanding takes great pleasure in expressing to the command his gratification with the good conduct of the troops engaged in the successful affair of the morning of the 10th instant, resulting in the dislodgment and capture of a considerable portion of the enemy's picket-line, which had for a long time been in too close proximity to our lines. The troops immediately engaged were the Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Colonel Biles commanding; and the Twentieth Indiana Volunteers and the Second U. S. Sharpshooters, under Lieutenant-Colonel Meikel, all of General De Trobriand's brigade, of Mott's division. To General Mott, who directed the whole operation, and to General De Trobriand, who was particularly charged with its execution, and to the officers and men of the regiments mentioned, the thanks of the major-general are accorded. Great credit is also due to Capt. H. G. Harrower, Eighty-sixth New York Volunteers, commanding the picket during the following night, under whose direction the new line was strengthened and properly connected. The major-general commanding sincerely regrets the death of Lieutenant-Colonel Meikel, Twentieth Indiana, and Lieutenant Ellsler, Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers; also the wounding and death of a number of brave officers and enlisted men. Those men who became detached during the night, remaining among the enemy's pickets during the following day, refusing to surrender, and returning to their command at night, are thought worthy of particular mention.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

W. P. WILSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General MILES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires me to say that you can draw in the brigade from the Finn house as soon as convenient and let it return to its old camp.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. P. WILSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 17, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIRST BRIGADE:

SIR: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you have a sufficient number of regiments from your brigade to number 800 muskets in readiness to move at dark to the place occupied by a portion of your brigade on Monday night, where the troops will bivouac until sunrise. A staff officer from these headquarters will be at your headquarters at dark and will conduct the troops.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 17, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that everything was very quiet during the night, a little picket-firing excepted.

By command of Maj. Gen. G. K. Warren:
FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 17, 1864—12 m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

In the temporary absence of General Warren, I send you the following just received. I have also heard from an officer of the Sixth Ohio Cavalry that about daybreak this morning cattle were heard by the cavalry pickets passing Reams' Station. The voices of the men driving the cattle were distinctly heard. At the same time the enemy's cavalry formed a skirmish line extending along the front of the cavalry pickets toward the plank road, evidently to cover the bringing off of the cattle:

CAMP FIRST PENNSYLVANIA VETERAN CAVALRY BATTALION,
September 17, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Maj. R. J. FALLS,
Commanding First Pennsylvania Veteran Cavalry Battalion:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that in obedience to your orders I went to the cavalry line of the pickets on the Reams' Station road, and from Lieutenant Cornell, First New Jersey Regiment, learned that a force of about twenty-five men, one-half

or thereabouts dismounted, appeared on his front and fired on his advance posts. His pickets fired and fell back 300 yards, when they were re-enforced by Lieutenant Cornell, and in turn drove the enemy back and established his lines as formerly, since which time all has been quiet and no enemy visible. This attack occurred about 7.30 a. m. A young contraband at Lieutenant Cornell's headquarters came in previous to this attack and reports two brigades of the enemy's infantry in the vicinity of Reams' Station.

HIRAM PLATT,
First Lieutenant, Commanding Company D.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST PENNSYLVANIA VETERAN CAVALRY BATTALION,
September 17, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Colonel Locke, assistant adjutant-general and chief of staff, as the report of the officer sent out by me in compliance with your note of 10 a. m.

R. J. FALLS,
Major, Commanding First Pennsylvania Cavalry Battalion.

Respectfully,

F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 17, 1864—2.15 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have just sent in two deserters from the Eighth Georgia, who can give you a great deal of information. Their homes are near Atlanta. They say all the cavalry was sent off yesterday to Hampton; that they were under arms all day yesterday and night before, expecting attack from us; that they don't think there is any idea of attacking us; that they know Kershaw's division has returned from the Valley, but think no other of Early's troops.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 17, 1864—3 p. m.

The above, just received, is sent and attention called to the statement of the return of Kershaw's division.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HALIFAX ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 17, 1864—5.10 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A body of cavalry, half an hour in passing, has just passed a point on Boydton plank road two miles left of toll-gate, going toward our right. No unusual activity in the enemy's works along the Boydton plank road.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 17, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report all quiet on my front during the last twenty-four hours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 17, 1864—2.45 a. m.

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 10.30 p. m. 16th is received. When last heard of General Kautz, at about 4 or 5 p. m., was ten miles beyond Sycamore Church on the route taken by the enemy; he was still following. The commanding general directs me to say that no effort should be spared to recapture the cattle so long as there is any chance left to do so. When, in your judgment, nothing further can be done, you can return. General Kautz will probably be up to the rear of the enemy by morning.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY,
September 17, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have arrived in camp with the Second Division, having concluded that nothing more could be done, with a view to recovering the stolen cattle. The force sent toward Stony Creek and to the railroad last night succeeded in reaching the railroad a little after daylight this morning. Colonel Smith, commanding, found the enemy on both roads. On the Stony Creek road he found the enemy in considerable force, so much so as not to justify exposing the command to the risk of being cut off. I learned from a contraband that the cattle were taken over the Nottoway yesterday afternoon. The enemy's intention was evidently to take them to their lines by a circuitous route and keeping a large force of cavalry between us and them. The loss in my command (Second Division) is about 25 killed, wounded, and missing. The officer sent to communicate with General Kautz has not yet returned and I have had no report from him since I left camp. I will report in person at your headquarters in a few hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

P. S.—All quiet along my picket-line.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 256. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., *In the Field, September 17, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

XVIII. Brig. Gen. A. Ames is hereby granted a leave of absence for twenty days, commencing Monday, September 19, 1864.

XIX. Brig. Gen. C. A. Heckman is hereby temporarily assigned to the command of the Second Division, Eighteenth Army Corps.

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By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

IN THE FIELD, *September 17, 1864—3.45 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Baltimore:
(Care of Major-General Wallace.)

All is quiet along the entire line. Yesterday afternoon three brigades of Hampton's cavalry turned our left and struck cattle corral about seven miles below City Point; captured about 2,000 head of cattle and our telegraph construction party. A cavalry force was sent out to cut them off; also, Hancock moved to intercept them with a division of infantry. The result is not yet known. Rumor is that the cattle are recaptured. They broke the telegraph line, so that we send to Powhatan. Will advise further through General Wallace to send you at Burlington. The line will be repaired this evening.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

IN THE FIELD, *September 17, 1864—4.30 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Have you any information concerning the captured cattle or movements on the left?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 17, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

Your dispatch of 4.30 received. The cavalry which I sent in pursuit of the captured cattle has returned, having found all avenues of approach so strongly held by the enemy as to prevent any attempt on their part to recover the cattle. The enemy have been moving their troops to our left, but whether for offensive purposes or to resist an anticipated attack on our part it is impossible to make out. Our lines, with the exception of the cavalry raid yesterday, have been undisturbed.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
September 17, 1864.

Lieut. Col. G. A. KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The following message has just been received from Spring Hill station:

About 500 infantry are passing inside enemy's works toward our right.

SIMONS,
Lieutenant, Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
September 17, 1864. (Received 3.23 p. m.)

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point, Va.:

A deserter from the Eighteenth Virginia, Hunton's brigade, Pickett's division, reports no change nor appearance of change in our front. Says the men are digging wells, building huts, and matters progress precisely as they have for a month back. No orders for rations have been given to indicate a movement, and no rumors to that effect. The informant says he lives in Petersburg and was in the city on a visit Friday. He is confident that Hoke's division passed toward their right on that day and the day before. He says that a lieutenant in that division, connected with the division hospital, told him that Grant's cavalry had crossed the Weldon road toward the Lynchburg with the intention of cutting it, and Hoke's division was sent to prevent that result. A deserter from Thomas' brigade, Wilcox's division, that had the right of Pickett's line, says that there was a rumor in his brigade that a North Carolina brigade, cut up in the late fights, was to relieve them and they go to Petersburg. His colonel remarked this in his hearing. Both of these men are very intelligent. A couple of refugees from Richmond say that there are no indications of Early's moving, and that matters in Richmond are unchanged. You may be assured, colonel, that I will use the utmost vigilance to discover any movement of the enemy, and make thorough examination of all deserters and forward you prompt information. Deserters and refugees all say that the impression is that Grant is heavily re-enforced, and that nothing but defensive movements are anticipated on the part of General Lee.

FRED. L. MANNING,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS,
September 17, 1864. (Received 9.20 p. m.)

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point, Va.:

The three brigades still occupy the north bank of the James—Benning's, Gregg's, and Hughs' (Tennessee) brigades, with some cavalry. Lieutenant Davenport has returned.

FRED. L. MANNING,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 17, 1864. (Received 9.20 a. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing of importance on my line. The enemy opened a very brisk artillery fire yesterday morning. I have lost heavily during past week with regiments' time expiring; two more are mustered out to-day. I have just received an order to send Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops to Dutch Gap. I would ask to be relieved of all the line to left of the Hare house. My line is becoming very thin and weak.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 17, 1864—2 p. m. (Received 2.30 p. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

The commanding general has requested me to reply to your dispatch to General Williams, and to say that he cannot relieve you from any part of the line now held by you. General Mott, with a division of about 5,000 men, holds intrenchments of about the same extent as those you hold with about double the force. The Second Division of the Second Corps, camped near the Avery house and still farther to the rear, is considered as forming a reserve for your corps as well as for Mott's division. Since the enemy has withdrawn a division from your front there is no indication of an intention to attack there. If an attack is contemplated by him it will probably be on the rear of our left. He is apparently concentrating on his right.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Hoke's division has been withdrawn from my front. Bushrod Johnson covers front, occupied formerly by the two divisions. Deserters say that he has gone toward Reams' Station to General Lee.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 17, 1864—7.40 p. m. (Received 8 p. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

I am instructed by the major-general commanding to say that an order from you has been referred to him directing changes in position of the siege guns, and that he has suspended the order until he can learn from you the objects proposed to be obtained in making the changes. The position of the siege guns has always been determined at these headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 17, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My indorsement on paper of General Hunt, returned to-night, explains that I was ignorant of the direct charge of siege guns by General Hunt. I immediately revoked the order as to the two Parrott guns that I ordered moved from the rear, and entirely disclaim all desire of interfering with General Hunt's duties. I regret that I was not advised of the orders in the matter.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 128. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 17, 1864.

1. The troops composing the present Third Division will hereafter compose the First Brigade, Third Division. Any general staff officers on duty with the Third Division who would be supernumerary in the brigade organization will report for assignment to the chief of their respective departments at these headquarters. This brigade will be treated as a separate brigade and report directly to these headquarters.

2. Pursuant to instructions from department headquarters, the commanding officer of the Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops will report with his regiment to Major Ludlow, aide-de-camp, at Dutch Gap.

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By command of Major-General Birney:

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIG., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 17, 1864.

Capt. CHARLES H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: The only thing I have to report this morning is the expenditure of 281 rounds of ammunition, fired at the enemy's works with good effect. Six light 12 pounders (Langdon's battery) were last night placed in the new redoubt on the right of General Terry's line, and three light 12-pounders (Warren's) in the inclosed work at the Hare house. There are now ten light 12-pounders in reserve.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieut. Col., Assistant Inspector-General and Chief of Artillery.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 17, 1864.

Capt. A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report all quiet in front of my lines this morning. The reserves remain as at yesterday's report. The

Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers will be relieved temporarily by the Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers. The officer of the trenches reports:

Nothing unusual occurred during last night and everything seems quiet this morning. The little firing done by our men last night was caused by the enemy getting up on the top of his high works at the old fort and firing down on our men in the trenches, making it quite unsafe. I stopped the fire as soon as I ascertained our men were doing it.

No casualties have occurred.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. VORIS,
Colonel Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, Comdg. First Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 17, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that during the past twenty-four hours the lines of the First Brigade have been extended to the railroad, and the lines of the Second Brigade and Third Brigade contracted, owing to the decrease in number consequent on the withdrawal of parties of the Forty-eighth New York and Fourth New Hampshire Volunteers whose terms of service have expired. All available men have been engaged on fatigue, either during the day or night, at work on the inclosed works on the right, the second line on the line of the Second and Third Brigades, and in strengthening the front line on the left of the railroad.

Very respectfully,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 4. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 17, 1864.

In obedience to order from headquarters Tenth Army Corps, the troops composing the Third Division will hereafter compose the First Brigade, Third Division. All regimental reports will hereafter be made direct to these headquarters. The officers composing the former brigade staff will report at once to their regiments for duty.

By command of Col. F. B. Pond:

M. BAILEY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Baxter's Mill, September 17, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have returned thus far from the pursuit of Hampton's forces. I followed him to the Jerusalem plank road, and my advance skirmished last night with what I presumed to be his rear guard for some time. I thought it possible it might be Gregg's forces and fell

back about two miles. This morning I sent a scout to the plank road and found no enemy. As we did not prepare for an expedition, most of the men having been turned out yesterday morning to repel the enemy hastily and before they had breakfast, I deemed it prudent to return, as the enemy must have reached his own lines early this morning. He drove the cattle more than thirty miles and very few were left on the road. I was disappointed in not effecting a junction with General Gregg's forces. The route taken was by Cook's Bridge, coming into the plank road near Major Belcher's house and about two miles from the Nottoway River. I have four or five prisoners that I will send to the provost-marshal-general as soon as possible. I have sent a squadron back on the route traveled to pick up a few cattle that broke down yesterday. Orders will reach me at my headquarters near Prince George Court-House.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Near Prince George Court-House, September 17, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have directed the picket-line to be established as it was. Has General Gregg returned to his headquarters on the plank road? All I could hear was that he was engaged with the enemy on the plank road last evening some distance above or nearer Petersburg than where I struck it, and that he fell back toward Petersburg last night. Small parties of the enemy are strolling all through the country beyond our lines. I have directed the brigade of infantry and the battery to report to you for orders. I could not use them with me yesterday, as they arrived too late, and the distance marched by my command yesterday was impossible for infantry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Near Prince George Court-House, September 17, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: I have returned to this camp and directed the picket-line to be established as it was. I have been compelled to use the Third New York to assist in completing the line. I followed the enemy yesterday until after 10 o'clock last night, and found him holding the plank road near Major Belcher's house, not far from Freeman's Bridge. I hoped to form a junction with you last night. This morning I learned that you had fallen back on the plank road, and, as the enemy had undoubtedly reached Stony Creek last night, I considered it useless to pursue farther with the small force I had, and returned by the shortest route to this camp. The enemy reached the plank road early yesterday evening, a distance of thirty miles from Sycamore Church. A

few stragglers and a few broken-down cattle was all the enemy left behind. I drove a small rear-guard from Cook's Bridge, on the Blackwater, to the plank road, where I was opposed by some force. I thought it possible that it might be your forces that I was engaging in the night, and not being able to ascertain the fact positively, I fell back a mile or two and remained till morning. I then sent to the plank road, and not finding either your forces or the enemy I returned. I had less than 500 men, and only about half of these had carbines.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 17, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Your note* has just been received. The right of my line is near Davenport Church and extends to Cocke's Mill. I will send a report of the raid as soon as I can get the data.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 18, 1864—11 p. m. (Received 11.10 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

I deem it proper to inform you that General Kautz has just reported information derived from citizens which would lead to the belief that the enemy's cavalry in force is on the Blackwater. A scouting party from Sycamore Church met ten or fifteen rebels a few miles from that place. I have directed a cavalry reconnaissance in the morning, but send you the above, all that is known, as a dash on Fort Powhatan may be designed. No other indications of movements but the above.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

OFFICE OF CHIEF COMMISSARY,
ARMIES OPERATING AGAINST RICHMOND,
City Point, Va., September 18, 1864.

Lieut. Col. M. R. MORGAN:

(Care of Lieut. Col. M. P. Small, chief commissary of subsistence, Fort Monroe, Va.)

The enemy got off with the whole herd at Coggins' Point, 2,486 head. None been recaptured.

D. D. WILEY,
Captain and Commissary of Subsistence.

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* Not found.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
September 18, 1864—12 p. m.

Col. P. P. PITKIN,
Chief Quartermaster, City Point:

The enemy are reported to be massing troops in front of General Kautz, and the general directs that a train of twenty-five to thirty cars be held ready at City Point for the purpose of moving troops to that place if ordered at any time before morning.

R. N. BATCHELDER,
Colonel, Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 18, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from the Eighth Georgia Regiment, of Anderson's brigade, Field's division, were forwarded last evening from the Fifth Army Corps. Their statement was not sent in last evening through forgetfulness. They state that the two brigades of Field's division (Benning's and Gregg's) that have been of late on the north side of the James have rejoined their division, which is now on the south side the Appomattox on the extreme right of the enemy's line; that Anderson's brigade was not permanently attached to Wilcox's division, and still belongs to Field's division—all reports of the brigade are still made to General Field; that their new line extends as far as Reams' Station, but cannot definitely locate it—it is to prevent our advance on the South Side Railroad; that our deserters reported that we contemplated an advance on the South Side Railroad, and that the movement would be made on Friday, the 16th instant.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 18, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Three deserters from Bushrod Johnson's division have just been forwarded from the Tenth Army Corps—two from the Forty-third Alabama, Gracie's brigade, and one from Thirty-fourth Virginia, Wise's brigade. They came in about daylight this a. m. Johnson's division is posted from right to left as follows: Gracie, Ransom, Elliott, and Wise, extending from the Burnside mine to the Appomattox. This division cannot be over 5,000 strong. Informants put Wise's brigade at 550 for duty and Gracie's at 1,200. Ransom's is about 1,600, and Evans' 2,000 before the recent fight. They can give no additional information of other parts of the line, and do not know where Hoke's division went to, except that it had gone to the Weldon railroad.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

PLANK ROAD STATION,
September 18, 1864—8.45 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Enemy's camps broken up in vicinity of large fort west of Weldon railroad, reported on the 15th instant, are reoccupied this morning. All quiet.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

SEPTEMBER 18, 1864—9 a. m.

Major FISHER:

At 8 a. m. five regiments of rebel infantry, armed and equipped, passed to our right over road to right of Petersburg. The number of regiments was determined by distinct spaces intervening in the column, and by three or four horsemen in the same intervals. About this same number, you remember, passed over the road to our left on the eve of September 16.

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 18, 1864—9 a. m.

Major FISHER:

All quiet this a. m.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

SEPTEMBER 18, 1864—9.35 a. m.

Major FISHER:

A body of about 600 infantry has just moved into town from the right. They came from the woods at a point due west from this station. There is a small detail on new works to-day.

JORDAN.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 18, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Five regiments of infantry passed toward Butler's front from Petersburg this a. m. This is the same number reported going toward Petersburg on the evening of the 16th instant.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD STATION,
September 18, 1864.

Major FISHER:

A regiment of cavalry and a section of artillery came from the left on line of the Weldon railroad and moved toward Petersburg.

H. W. FULTON.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 18, 1864—11.40 p. m. (Received 11.50 p. m.)

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, City Point:

Some movements of the enemy's cavalry are reported in the vicinity of Sycamore Church, which may have significance in connection with City Point and that vicinity. The commanding general directs that you take command of the troops there for its defense. General Patrick will order the commanding officer of the troops serving in his department at City Point to report to you for orders in that connection. A battery of artillery was sent there on Friday.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
September 18, 1864. (Received 12 p. m.)

Colonel GATES,
Commanding Post and Defenses, City Point, Va.:

COLONEL: You will report to Brigadier-General Benham, at City Point, for any duty connected with the defense of the point. Suspicious movements of the enemy have been observed near Sycamore Church.

By command of provost-marshal-general:

A. J. DALLAS,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 18, 1864—9 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

There has been no material change in the disposition of my lines since last report. There are about 1,800 on fatigue from the corps to-day. The brigade at the Finn house returned to its camp yesterday.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 18, 1864—11 p. m. (Received 11.10 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

Hunt will send one of his reserve batteries to report to Lieutenant-Colonel Pierce. You had better keep your artillery with you. The rebel cavalry are reported on the Blackwater, and a small party, some fifteen, was seen and driven on the road from Sycamore Church this evening at a point three miles from the church. I don't know what they are up to; it may be a dash at City Point, or it may be an attempt to interrupt our communications on the river.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 18, 1864—11.45 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Some movements of the enemy's cavalry are reported in the vicinity of Sycamore Church, which may indicate a movement elsewhere or a dash at City Point. General Davies is directed to re-enforce General Kautz, to enable him to look after the enemy in the direction of Sycamore Church and to concentrate his force as much as practicable. The commanding general requests that your command be put on the alert, and be prepared to meet any operation of the enemy.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Generals Warren and Parke.)

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 18, 1864.

Capt. W. P. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

CAPTAIN: As the result of an examination of the inclosed work on the left of the plank road known as Fort Crawford, I have the honor to report that in my opinion the work in its present condition is incapable of a proper defense with artillery. The following improvements seem to me to be necessary: First. The banquette at the north and west faces should be of sufficient depth to permit the use of artillery at any point on those faces, or at least the present platform should be so extended as to allow four more guns on each face and facilitate the use of those now in position. Second. Magazines should be erected of sufficient capacity to contain the artillery ammunition required there by permitting the caissons of the light batteries occupying the work to be sent to the rear, as they are not sufficiently covered in the work. The only magazine fit for present use is small, ill-drained, and now filled with infantry ammunition, and one situated near the southeastern angles is partially filled with water and in a stinking condition. If the magazines were situated near the north face they could be easily drained by tunnels. Bomb-proofs should take the place of the traverses at the western face. Other improvements than those above mentioned would perhaps suggest themselves to the eye of an engineer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. M. EDGELL,
Captain, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 18, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that since yesterday morning there has nothing of importance transpired in my front. Everything last night was unusually quiet, even the picket-firing subsided. Two deserters from Eighth Georgia were received and forwarded.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 36. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *September 18, 1864.*

I. The present opportunity must be employed to re-establish, as far as may be, the tone and condition of the corps, and all officers are urgently called upon to use all the energy in their power to instruct and inspirit their men.

II. Division commanders are required to see that all articles of dress worn by the men are, as far as practicable, uniform, and they will have all articles of dress out of uniform replaced.

III. All officers having cows and those having horses, not entitled to them by regulations, will report the same to these headquarters by the 20th instant.

IV. Brigade drills will be had every day until the following maneuvers are fully comprehended: To face by the rear rank; to face by the front rank; to march to the front in line of battle; to march to the rear in line of battle; to change front to rear on the right or left battalion; to change front forward on the right or left battalion; to come by right or left by file into line.

V. All the pioneer corps of this corps will assemble on the plain between these headquarters and the headquarters of General Ayres for rigid inspection at 2 p. m. to-morrow. Every man must be present with all he has, officers' effects included. The inspection will take place without regard to weather.

VI. Officers must at once procure proper insignia to distinguish their rank, and these emblems must be worn upon the shoulders. The men must wear their proper badges on their hats.

VII. The reorganization of the artillery requires the complete control of the chief of artillery over all the batteries, and until further orders all special assignments of batteries to divisions from these headquarters are countermanded.

VIII. A brigade will be selected for inspection and review from each division on Thursday, the 22d instant, and any unexplained neglect to comprehend the simple maneuvers laid down in paragraph IV will be considered sufficient reason for bringing the commanding officer before a board of examination.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 232. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *September 18, 1864.*

I. In compliance with orders from headquarters Army of the Potomac, Company D, First Pennsylvania Veteran Cavalry, will at once proceed with its officers and all its baggage to report to Brig. Gen. M. R. Patrick, provost-marshal-general, at headquarters Army of the Potomac. If any of the men belonging to this company are temporarily absent, on picket or otherwise, they will at once be brought in to go with it.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 18, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have the honor to report all quiet on the front of the Ninth Corps during the past twenty-four hours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet and no changes on cavalry line of pickets during the past night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 18, 1864—11.20 p. m. (Received 12, midnight.)

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

To save time, General Kautz sent direct to these headquarters reports from his officers picketing in the vicinity of Sycamore Church, that citizens informed them that the enemy's cavalry were advancing on Sycamore Church and also on Cocke's Mill road. The force was stated to be, in one instance, a brigade, in another, a division. Captain Speers saw some twelve or fifteen of the enemy's cavalry on the road followed Friday, a short distance in front of Sycamore Church. Guerrillas have always hovered about there, but not cavalry. If the enemy should be in some force there, it may be in connection with a movement elsewhere, or a dash at City Point. The commanding general directs that you re-enforce General Kautz, so as to enable him to move out in that direction early to-morrow morning and ascertain what force of the enemy is there, and what he is about. The troops should move about 3 a. m., so as to reach General Kautz at daylight. The commanding general enjoins vigilance on the part of your command, and its concentration as far as practicable, so as to be ready for any operation the enemy may have on foot.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: General Hancock directs me to say that in case of necessity he will support your command to-morrow in the vicinity of the plank road with infantry. He has been informed that a part of your command is to be sent from this point to re-enforce General Kautz.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY,
September 18, 1864.

Col. C. H. SMITH,
Comdg. Second Brig., Second Div. Cav., Army of the Potomac:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you have your command saddled at daylight to-morrow (September 19, 1864). You are also directed to send a reconnaissance of about one battalion to Proctor's and one down on Gary's Church road. These parties must start about one hour before the break of day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

IN THE FIELD, *September 18, 1864—12 m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:
(Care of Major-General Wallace, Baltimore.)

All perfectly quiet. The cattle were not recaptured. Deserters are coming in, all reporting exertions making to fill up the army. No change in disposition of troops in our front. No cannonading of consequence during the morning or last evening. Line repaired and working to Fortress Monroe.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
September 18, 1864.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE A. KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The following message has just been received from Spring Hill:

A train of six freight and two passenger cars, heavily loaded with troops, toward Petersburg.

SIMONS,
Lieutenant, Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *September 18, 1864.*

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy have fired all day, wounding two men in the canal. Am of the opinion that the quickest and best way to stop their firing altogether is to send fifty men across and capture their pieces. Think it could be done.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There have been no changes of troops on my line. I have not been advised of the cause of the artillery firing. I would respectfully suggest that the captains and lieutenants who have independent authority to open fire from the heavy guns on my line should, when they do so, advise my division general commanding their line why they do so, so that I can learn the cause. When I took command of this line there was a constant, incessant musket and artillery fire, General Ord losing 1,000 men during a month. I have tried to reduce the matter to a system, and have opened on the town only to stop the fire on my troops. I think it will be found that less ammunition has been expended during my command than during same time preceding, and troops have had more rest and done double the fatigue duty.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIG., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 18, 1864.

Capt. CHARLES H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have nothing of importance to report this morning. There was only one round fired at the enemy yesterday. Private George Vanderwarker, Battery H, Third New York, wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieut. Col., Assistant Inspector-General and Chief of Artillery.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 18, 1864.

Capt. A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that no changes have been made in this command during the past twenty-four hours. The officer of the trenches reports this morning: "The line was during the night very quiet, nothing worthy of mention transpiring." No casualties during the last twenty-four hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. VORIS,
Colonel Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, Comdg. First Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 18, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that there has been no change in the disposition of troops of this division during the past twenty-four hours. A fatigue detail of 200 men has been engaged at work on the

lunette on the left of the railroad, and one of 300 on the inclosed work on my right, besides details engaged on various parts of the line in repairing the banquette and raising and strengthening the parapet.

Respectfully, yours,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 18, 1864.

Capt. P. A. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Div., Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the working parties on my front have been employed during the last twenty-four hours in constructing the parapet in rear of the present line and in collecting material for revetment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. A. OSBORN,
Colonel Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, Comdg. Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 18, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: No reports have been received from the picket-line, and I only presume that all is quiet from that reason. I will see that the reports are resumed as usual. The losses in the First District of Columbia Cavalry have rendered it necessary to put the Third New York Cavalry on picket, and the line is very insecure, even with this addition, and gives no reserve to support the line. A brigade of infantry is at Prince George Court-House for the present, but I do not know whether it will remain there. I have called for the returns of casualties and reports from the regiments about the affair of the 16th, and will forward them as soon as received. Cannot some changes be made so as not to make the duty so heavy? Most of the men go on post on alternate days.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 18, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Inclosed I send you reports from the pickets, just received. I do not understand the movement. If there is such a force as represented it must be in connection with some other movement. I have directed the avenues to be guarded as well as possible, but the whole force, by concentrating all the cavalry east of Mount Sinai Church, will not muster over 500 men. I send these reports to your headquarters to save time. Please to notify the general commanding the Second Cavalry Division of the fact.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Cavalry Division.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE, KAUTZ'S DIVISION,
September 18, 1864—8 p. m.

Capt. M. J. ASCH,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Inclosed please find report from Maj. F. A. Stratton. Captain Speers sends word by an orderly that he went out on the road we went out on in pursuit of the rebels some distance, and he saw between twelve and fifteen mounted rebels; that they fell back as he approached them. The citizens reported to Captain Griffin that a brigade of rebel cavalry is advancing on the Cocke's Mill road. He, Captain Griffin, in Captain Speers' absence, drew back his pickets, doubling posts until he connects with the Eleventh Pennsylvania. I have ordered him to picket to Sycamore and to re-establish his picket on the road we went out. Please send further directions if required. Telegraph road on my rear is open to City Point.

Yours,

SAM. WETHERILL,
Major Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, Commanding Brigade.

[Sub-inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ELEVENTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY,
Near Rollins' House, September 18, 1864—8 p. m.

Lieutenant GULIC,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Brigade, Kautz's Division:

SIR: The First District of Columbia sent word to my outpost before sundown that a citizen by the name of Dunn came in and reported that there was a rebel brigade at the Blackwater; that he could hear bugles and see camp-fires, &c. Sergeants Cook and Smith, of Company D, went up to Sycamore Church about sundown. The corporal on picket where the road turns to the right just this side of Sycamore told them that the citizen (the same one) reported a division about two miles out, and that a force was advancing on the telegraph (Fort Powhatan) road. Captain Speers had gone out to reconnoiter on the latter road. Sergeants C. and S. are certain they heard bugles at a considerable distance while they were there. Smoke could be seen, but whether camp-fires or fire in the woods was uncertain. I send you all the information I have, thinking that you may not have received a report from Captain Speers.

Respectfully,

FRANKLIN A. STRATTON,
Major Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, Commanding Regiment.

HEADQUARTERS KAUTZ'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 18, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of Va. and N. C.:

MAJOR: I would respectfully call the attention of the general commanding the department to the reduction in this division by the transfer of the greater portion of the First District of Columbia Cavalry to the Army of the Potomac. The division has been otherwise reduced by losses in battle, expiration of service, &c., so much so that it will soon

render it an absurdity to call it a division, or even entitle it to be called a brigade, so far as numbers are concerned. I, therefore, respectfully request that all detachments from the division be returned to it. I also recommend the mounting and equipping of the First Maryland Cavalry, now doing duty as infantry in the Tenth Corps, and that it be assigned to this division. This regiment is a veteran regiment and has been much discouraged by not being allowed to receive their horses. Colonel Evans, the commander of the regiment, is a graduate of West Point and a captain in the Sixth U. S. Cavalry. I believe it will be to the interest of the service if this regiment could be allowed to serve as suggested.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Cavalry Division.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 21, 1864.

Approved.
As soon as horses can be procured the regiment will be mounted.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 18, 1864.

Major WETHERILL,
Commanding, &c.:

Watch well all the avenues of approach with what force you have. The general will report to army headquarters and re-enforcement will probably be sent you. I will inform you as soon as I hear from headquarters. Keep us advised of every movement on the part of the enemy.

Yours, respectfully,

M. J. ASCH,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 19, 1864—8.30 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

A large part of the convalescents sent from Alexandria here belong to the Sixth and Nineteenth Corps, and have to be immediately returned. Please direct the commanding officer there to caution his provost-marshal against making this mistake.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *September 19, 1864.*

General HUMPHREYS:

Is it known that the enemy are moving on our left?

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864—9.50 a. m. (Received 10 a. m.)

Col. C. B. COMSTOCK,
Aide-de-Camp, City Point:

General Kautz reported last night some reported movements of enemy's cavalry toward Sycamore Church and Cocke's Mill. He was directed to move out there at daylight this morning and look after the enemy. No report has been received from him. All measures taken were simply precautionary. It was thought probable that there was nothing in the reported movement. The commanding general requests me to say that he thinks some more extended works than those at City Point should be thrown up, the space inclosed by them being too contracted. General Benham will be directed to take the matter in hand.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864—1 p. m. (Received 3.15 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Everything has been quiet since my last dispatch till about 7 p. m. last evening, when General Kautz reported the appearance of the enemy's cavalry in the vicinity of Sycamore Church. General Davies was immediately ordered to re-enforce Kautz by a brigade of his division and to push out and ascertain what the enemy was doing. A dispatch just received from Kautz, dated 12 m., confirms the previous report of the enemy's cavalry being in force near Sycamore Church, and states he is about sending Colonel Stedman's brigade, of Davies' division, to reconnoiter; no reason given why this reconnaissance was not made this morning as ordered. I am at a loss to account for the appearance of the enemy's cavalry at this point, unless a dash is intended on our rear. To provide against this, besides the cavalry, I have placed a brigade of infantry on the Norfolk stage road and one at Prince George Court-House, and, as I am unable to extend any farther, have requested Major-General Butler to place a brigade at the Old Court-House as part of the defenses of City Point, where I have sent a battery of artillery and placed the troops under the command of Brigadier-General Benham, the senior officer present. The signal officers have reported some movements of the enemy indicating a partial return of the troops from their right to left. Hoke's division, however, withdrawn from their extreme left, has not returned, according to report of deserters in this morning.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

3 P. M.

The foregoing was prepared to send in cipher when information was received you were on your way up the river. Since writing it Major-General Butler has telegraphed he will send two brigades to Old Court-House, and deserters report that Hoke has returned to the left and is lying in reserve in rear of Bushrod Johnson. I have directed the engineers to examine the vicinity of Old Court-House for the location of a work which shall be part of a line either to Prince George Court-House or to Point of Rocks, in case it should be desirable to hold either of these lines.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864—1.15 p. m. (Received 1.25 p. m.)

Lieutenant-Colonel COMSTOCK,
Aide-de-Camp, City Point:

General Kautz reports that Captain Speers, on duty at Sycamore Church, in his morning report, states that the enemy are in his front in force, but all was quiet. Colonel Stedman, in command of the brigade sent General Kautz at daylight this morning, has been directed to look after the enemy there, and a report is expected from him this afternoon.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, *September 19, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Have just returned.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864—5 p. m. (Received 5.20 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I am glad to hear of your return. I sent a dispatch at 3 p. m., since which time nothing has been heard from General Kautz's reconnaissance, though his last dispatch seemed to intimate a doubt as to the presence of the enemy in force near Sycamore Church, though it was twice reported by Colonel [Captain] Speers. In view of the large amount of property about City Point, and extending for some distance outside, I deemed it prudent to ask General Butler to send a spare brigade, if he had one, to Old Court-House. He telegraphed in reply he would send two. As nothing seems to have been developed to-day, I think one brigade will be ample. As you have returned, however, I will leave this question to you.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864—5.20 p. m. (Received 5.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I send a dispatch* just received from Kautz. It appears Captain Speers' report last evening, repeated this morning, is not confirmed by Colonel Stedman's reconnaissance, and that there has been no enemy in that vicinity since the cattle raid. I would, however, suggest, if it meets your views, one of Butler's brigades being retained for awhile at Old Court-House, for I notice by the Richmond paper of to-day that very highly-colored accounts are given of the stores, &c., at City Point, and a sudden dash, such as was made the other morning, if made during the night, might occasion trouble.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* See Kautz to Humphreys, 4 p. m., p. 932.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 19, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. M. R. PATRICK,
Provost-Marshal-General, &c.:

You will please report to these headquarters the names and probable or positive method of desertion, if the same has been or can be ascertained, of all deserters who may hereafter arrive at this point from the North. It is particularly desired to have reported such as have deserted to the enemy and by him sent through to the North.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

GEO. K. LEET,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
September 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Our men returned from over the river this morning, having met an agent who left Richmond yesterday afternoon, from whom, and from two refugees brought out of Richmond by the agent, and to our lines by our men, the following is obtained: As careful an inquiry as possible has been made into the movement of guns said to have recently taken place about Petersburg. It is believed that some eleven very heavy guns were taken from their positions about Petersburg; that part of them were put in position on Drewry's Bluff, and part upon a new line which has been laid out between Petersburg and Richmond. In the early part of the week it had been rumored that General Early was to be called to Richmond to answer a charge of drunkenness. Nothing more was heard of this, but General Early was in Richmond on Wednesday, when it was understood that a council of general officers was held at Mr. Davis' house. All the prominent generals from General Lee's army and in Richmond were present. The following rumors as to what passed are given for what they are worth: It was said that General Early insisted upon more men being sent to him if he was ordered to hold the Valley; that General Lee also very strenuously pressed the fact that without re-enforcements he would be unable to hold his lines or meet the expected extension of the Union lines; that it was admitted that a part of the rebel lines are mere skeletons; that at Chesterfield particularly the line had been weakened to such an extent, in order to strengthen the enemy's right, as to make it a common subject of conversation. It was said to be agreed that Early should not return from the Valley unless necessitated to do so by an attack here which could not be repelled, and that if Early should not be able to get down in time they were then to fall back to the new line between Petersburg and Richmond. It is understood that the battalions composed of men employed in the Government works are to be called out and put in the service for sixty days, to be replaced as far as possible by wounded soldiers, deserters from our army, and prisoners taken from us who are willing to take the oath of allegiance to the Confederate States. The work at Dutch Gap occasions a great many rumors and some uneasiness, as the people cannot learn what it is expected to accomplish. It is said that a floating obstruction is being built to be placed at Cox's Ferry in case the work at Dutch Gap on our part

should prove to be a success, and that a very large anchor has been sunk at the upper obstructions to enable the gun-boats to be warped through them when it shall be necessary for them to retire up the river. Our agent had information, which he believes to be reliable, that the torpedo party, who had been doing nothing for two or three weeks, left Richmond on Saturday night with a wagon-load of torpedoes, and it was expected that they would attempt to put them in the water somewhere between the mouth of the Chickahominy and Jamestown Island. This information was obtained from an officer of the rank of captain, who has been out with the torpedo party several times before, and who, on Saturday, upon being asked about some preparations for departure, gave the above as the reason. Papers brought by the men are inclosed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Ten deserters have just been forwarded, representing Wise's, Scales', and Thomas' brigades. Three from Scales' brigade, Thirty-eighth North Carolina Regiment, report that their brigade is lying across the Weldon railroad directly in front of the lead-works, with McGowan and Lane on the right. This comprises all of Wilcox's division excepting Thomas' brigade, which is on the north side of the Appomattox. A deserter from the Thirty-fifth Georgia, Thomas' brigade, came into the lines of the Tenth Army Corps at 10 a. m. yesterday. He reports that his brigade (Thomas') extends from the Appomattox at a point opposite Beauregard's line to Pickett's division, a distance of four miles. This is the only brigade between the above points. Deserters from Forty-sixth Virginia, Wise's brigade, report no change on their line up to daylight this a. m., when they came in. Hoke's division had returned from the right and went into camp yesterday about noon in a ravine about half a mile to the rear of Bushrod Johnson's division. No other movements determined from the examination.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Deserters from Scales' brigade locate Wilcox's division on right, Scales' across the Weldon railroad at lead-works, and Lane and McGowan to right. Thomas' brigade holds line from Pickett's division to point on Appomattox opposite Beauregard. Hoke's division returned from the right yesterday morning and is now in camp half a mile to rear of Johnson's division in a ravine. Seven deserters from Wise's brigade to-day.

J. C. B[ABCOCK].

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 19, 1864. (Received 7.45 p. m.)

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point, Va.:

I find on north side of the James—Benning's brigade, of 800 men; Gregg's, of about the same number, and Bushrod Johnson's old brigade, of not over 600 or 700 men; also the City Battalion and one brigade of cavalry. In our immediate front is Pickett's division entire, of not over 3,500 men (probably not over 3,000), and Thomas' brigade, of Wilcox's division. All the information I can get fully confirms yours as to the hard times existing in the Confederacy. The general sent to-night by Major Mulford to Richmond for your man. The boat will leave Bermuda Hundred to go up to-morrow. The letters you sent will go with her.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The plank road station reports:

The enemy is working in considerable force upon a new line of earth-works connected with the fort west of the Weldon railroad and extending southward as far as can be seen from here; are also working in small force at different points along our whole front. One hundred and sixty infantry have just passed southward along the Weldon railroad. Camps unchanged.

FULTON.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

(Copy to General Hancock.)

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

The enemy is using the Weldon railroad from the lead-works to Petersburg.

WARTS,
Lieutenant.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

I have a tree from which I can see the lead-works and half a mile of the enemy's works to the right of them; can see a small village composed of about ten houses about two miles south of Petersburg; saw a few wagons passing through the village this a. m. Cannot find

any open country to the left of General Warren's position. Can see cars passing the lead-works, and of a clear day I think will be able to look into the town of Petersburg.

WARTS,
Lieutenant, Signal Officer.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 19, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Four regiments of infantry just passed open space near Whitehead's Factory, going toward enemy's left.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The lookout at the Walthall house station reports four regiments of infantry having passed beyond Whitehead's Factory going toward the enemy's position in front of Butler.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 19, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

The following has been intercepted:

9 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT],
Assistant Adjutant-General:

All quiet this a. m. One gun-boat above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

11.20 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One battery of artillery drilling in open space.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

2 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Five wagons passed Point of Rocks going toward lower pontoon. Steamer just gone down the river.

J. A. S.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 19, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

All quiet this p. m. Enemy still at work on the breast-works to the right of Fort Clifton. The following was just intercepted:

Colonel B[RENT]:

All quiet this p. m. Two gun-boats above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 19, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

The following was intercepted:

Colonel B[RENT]:

One company of cavalry came from Prince George; passed on military road rear of Battery 5, going toward City Point. Fifteen wagons passed on same road going toward enemy's front, and twenty-six wagons passed on road east of Jordan's house going toward City Point.

J. Q. ETHEREDGE.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

SEPTEMBER 19, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

A new camp has appeared in rear of Cemetery Hill, and from the style of the tents (A-tents) and the number of them I think it is the same which moved from west of Whitehead's. Ordinary fatigue parties on new works to-day. Two or three small detachments of infantry on different roads and several small trains moving in different directions comprise all the movements noticed in enemy's lines.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following reports are respectfully forwarded:

WALTHALL HOUSE.

The camps to our right of Fort Clifton have considerably increased. A party of 200 or 300 men were strengthening that line of works during the day. A new earth-work is being built southwest of Petersburg.

STATION NEAR THE FRIEND HOUSE.

A new camp has appeared in rear of Cemetery Hill.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 309. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, September 19, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

51. Maj. John Hancock, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty in the Army of the Potomac, and will report in person, without delay, to the Adjutant-General of the Army for assignment to duty.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *September 19, 1864—12.30 a. m.*

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Your dispatch of 11.40 [p. m. 18th] received. Colonel Gates, who is now with me, reports that he has only thirty-five mounted, which he is now sending out on a reconnaissance. A squadron of cavalry, if it can be spared, would be desirable here.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864—1 a. m.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding at City Point:

Kautz's cavalry are picketing at Sycamore Church and Cocke's Mill, and he will move out there in the morning with considerable force to look after the enemy. There is no cavalry that can be sent you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864—10 a. m. (Received 10.25 a. m.)

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, City Point:

The commanding general considers the works at City Point too contracted, and directs that you make the necessary examinations for throwing up an intrenched line, giving considerable more space around the Point for the depots, camps of employés, &c., and submit a project for the necessary works.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864—2.20 p. m. (Received 2.30 p. m.)

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, City Point:

The object of the presence of some cavalry force of the enemy about Sycamore Church not having been yet developed, the major-general commanding has requested Major-General Butler to send some infantry, to be posted in the vicinity of Old Court-House on Bailey's Creek, to serve under your orders. General Butler has directed two brigades of infantry to report to you, and informs the commanding general that he will or has telegraphed you to send a staff officer to meet the troops and conduct them to the position they are to occupy. The officer at Sycamore Church, in his morning report, stated that some force of the enemy was in front of that place, but that everything was quiet.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864—2.50 p. m. (Received 3 p. m.)

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, City Point:

Major Michler, acting chief engineer, has been directed to throw up a redoubt in the vicinity of Old Court-House that will serve as part of a line from Prince George Court-House to the Old Court-House, and also as part of a line from Point of Rocks to same place. The engineer officers will call on you for details for working parties from the force sent to occupy that point. Please furnish such as may be required.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, *September 19, 1864—4 p. m.*
(Received 7.15 p. m.)

General A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Your dispatch was received about thirty minutes ago, as also one previously from General Butler. Both came to me while I was out selecting line of defense according to your order received about noon. I at once ordered an aide to pontoon bridge to meet the troops, with directions to post the largest brigade at Old Court-House, with one regiment in advance at the fork of the roads, about one-third of a mile south of Bailey's Creek, and the smaller brigade at Batte's house, one-third of a mile west, with one-half of a regiment in advance on Bailey's Creek crossing and one-half regiment on its right on the west. In the reconnaissance I have made I have selected, by your order received at noon, as the best line, and such as will keep an enemy full two miles from City Point at the least, on our right, the line from Bailey's Creek lower crossing by Old Court-House, the Knox house, and thence north along the second ridge for this camp, with a redoubt on the third ridge opposite the north end of the second ridge, which covers the cavalry hospitals and all our camps from right. I reconnoitered for an advance line, in case it should be required, and this should start, if required, in

my judgment, from Old Court-House to the west and northwest by Peterson Batte's to Cobb's house, passing either by the west of Temple house ruins or on the ridge one-third of a mile south of those ruins.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, *September 19, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

General A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have just learned from a messenger sent to Point of Rocks that the two brigades from General Butler crossed the pontoon bridge between 6 and 7 o'clock, and are now moving to the positions assigned them. My aide informs me that these brigades together do not amount to 1,500 men, and they may not be over 1,200.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, *September 19, 1864.*

General WILLIAMS:

General Benham is now out to select the position for new works, by order of General Humphreys. There are 660 men in this brigade—Colonel Gates has about 460 colored troops and 200 white; there is also a Maine battery here with four guns and 120 men.

C. CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
City Point, Va., September 19, 1864—12.30 a. m.

Major OTIS,
Commanding Dismounted Camp:

I am directed by General H. W. Benham to say to you that he has just received intelligence from the headquarters Army of the Potomac that the enemy's cavalry are making some movement in the vicinity of Sycamore Church. This information is sent you that you may be on the alert, and if you deem it expedient send your horses to this place. If by any possibility you have any mounted men it is very desirable either that you send them out yourself or order them to report to me here for orders for scouting.

Respectfully,

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
City Point, Va., September 19, 1864—1 a. m.

Capt. E. J. STRANG:

The general commanding has received, as commander of the post here, information from headquarters Army of the Potomac that the enemy's cavalry are making a demonstration in the vicinity of Sycamore Church. He sends you this intelligence that you may be in readi-

ness to run your stock within the lines if necessary; perhaps the surest method of doing this will be along the beach. Will you please inform him if you have any mounted men that can be sent out, and also if you receive any intelligence otherwise than through him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864—12.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

It is proper to inform you that I have 2,700 men detailed for fatigue to-morrow morning.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864—12.55 a. m. (Received 1 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The information respecting the enemy's cavalry is not so positive or definite as to require more than the general precautions mentioned.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

No material change in my lines or disposition of troops since last report; 2,700 men on fatigue duty this morning constructing defenses and railroad cut.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

I find this morning that the brigade at the Court-House had a battery during the night. My acting chief of artillery reported that there was no battery there, but it appears that when the horse artillery was withdrawn yesterday the division commander sent down his battery again.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

The brigade of Colonel Pierce, at Prince George, is not very large, and I suggest that it would be well for General Hunt to withdraw his

battery now, as eight guns are rather more than the brigade can take care of. Colonel Smyth is now here, and if you accede to the suggestion he will order the battery to report to General Hunt.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864. (Sent 10.45 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general accedes to the suggestion that the battery sent to the brigade by General Hunt be ordered back to him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

Lieutenant BENYAURD,
Engineer:

To-morrow I wish you would look at the embrasures on the southwest side of the fort, on the plank road, hitherto known as Fort Crawford. You will find the embrasures do not admit of a sufficient field of fire. None on the south side can see so far to the left as the angle of Fort Alexander Hays. All the embrasures on that side require widening on the left-hand face, and on the other side also, and some of them both ways. I do not know who is in charge, but I venture to predict that a nice engineer would condemn the direction of the left face of the redoubt building in front of the Westbrook house—that is, if I understand the object of that redoubt. See Michler about it; he will know.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864—4.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

One of our outposts just sent in reports having heard a heavy rumbling of wheels, as if artillery was moving. The Fourth South Carolina and Sixth North Carolina Cavalry are just put on picket. The call (boots and saddles) has been blown. Frequent tinkling of cow bells as if their pickets were being posted.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

(Forwarded to General Davies.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that everything was very quiet in my front during yesterday and last night. One deserter from Thirty-eighth North Carolina was received last night and two more from same regiment this morning. They are now on their way to army headquarters.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

General MEADE:

I am trying all I can to excite the energy and soldierly pride of this corps, and I think it would help the whole army very much to publish an order from your headquarters saying what battles may be inscribed on the regimental flags by those present in them since you have commanded the Army of the Potomac, and also authorizing all men in those battles to wear the battle chevron for each battle they were in. A board might be appointed in each corps to carry out the order by deciding whether the regiment was entitled to the honor. The operation would be immediate and would be better than to have a report made and claims submitted, which would take considerable time.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864—8 p. m. (Received 9 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN:

I will reply fully to your telegram in reference to inscribing battles on flags so soon as I can ascertain what has been done previously in this matter and what are my powers in the premises. I am under the impression the War Department alone has the power to give the necessary permission.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

Nothing unusual occurred in my front during the last twenty-four hours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY,
Monday, September 19, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Pursuant to orders received last night, the First Brigade of this division started at 3.15 a. m. to report to Brigadier-General Kautz, leaving their picket-line established, taking 1,000 men. At 4 a. m. I dispatched a force to patrol the Jerusalem plank road as far as Proctor's farm, and also a party from Gary's Church to move in the direction of Reams'. Neither of these have as yet reported back. My pickets report all quiet. A small party of dismounted men approached my outside vedettes on the Weldon railroad soon after daylight and asked for an exchange of papers; said they would not fire, if our men would not, and fell back. I will forward reports from the patrols as soon as received.

Respectfully,

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 19, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I forward herewith report received* this a. m. from General Kautz, from which it appears that the brigade sent him this a. m. is now engaged in ascertaining the position and movements of the enemy. From his reports of his present force and his picket-line, I presume he has been unable to use more than that brigade in moving after the enemy while keeping up his picket-line. Colonel Stedman commands the brigade sent him.

Respectfully,

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

I inclose you copy of dispatch† just received from General Kautz, from which it appears that the force sent him this a. m. has not been used for the purpose of looking after the enemy reported to be in the vicinity of Sycamore Church. It was expected that you would give the necessary instructions to General Kautz, as he is under your orders and receives instructions from these headquarters direct only when some emergency requires it. He was advised by me last night that you would re-enforce him for the purposes specified, so that he might be prepared in time, as, from the distance between you, he could not be if

* See Kautz to Weir, 11.30 a. m., p. 931.
† See Kautz to Humphreys, 12 m., p. 931.

he received the intimation from you. But it would appear from his note that he received no orders to that effect. The commanding general directs that orders to the effect of those indicated last night be given to General Kautz if it has not been already done.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

General Kautz finds no enemy in front of Sycamore Church, and reports that he will send back the brigade of the Second Division. The commanding general considers that the picket-line should be re-adjusted, so that Kautz will be charged with picketing from the Blackwater to the James, or rather watching the avenues of approach between them. By keeping orderlies at the telegraph office at Second Corps headquarters I can communicate with you more rapidly than by orderlies from here.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 19, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, &c.:

GENERAL: I have just received a report from General Kautz, through one of my staff officers whom I sent over to ascertain in regard to his movements. The whole country beyond Sycamore Church has been examined in every direction from four to five miles, and no trace of any force of the enemy met. General Kautz does not believe in the fact of any force having been there. I inclose General Kautz's report just received.*

Respectfully,

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Div., Cavalry Corps:

The scouting party sent out on the Gary's Church road has returned; found no enemy. All remains quiet this morning on the line.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

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* See Kautz to Weir, 4 p. m., p. 932.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Div., Cavalry Corps:

In accordance with instructions from headquarters Second Cavalry Division, a battalion of the First Maine Cavalry, commanded by Capt. John A. Heald, left camp at 3.30 this a. m. and proceeded, via Lee's Mill, to Proctor's. At Temple's Shop met a rebel picket, whom they charged and drove back to a small reserve between that point and Proctor's. There a few shots were exchanged, when the party fled, leaving in our possession two carbines, several haversacks, cartridge-boxes, and shelter-tents. They were closely pursued as far as Proctor's. The battalion halted at Proctor's and sent out scouting parties on the different roads in that vicinity, but saw no enemy.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 19, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Please send me an approximate report of the number of men for duty between the James and Appomattox.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
September 19, 1864—6.20 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

We have 4,500 infantry (old troops), 4,000 new Pennsylvania troops, 2,500 negro troops at Deep Bottom and 1,000 at Dutch Gap. Two brigades of 1,000 each have gone across river to City Point, now on the march.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864—1 p. m. (Received 1.15 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

I send you a dispatch* just received from General Kautz, the first since last night when I telegraphed. Colonel Stedman commands the brigade of cavalry sent to Kautz to enable him to ascertain what the enemy were about. I had expected this information would be obtained this morning. I am at a loss to account for the appearance of the enemy at this point unless a dash at our rear is intended. I have placed a brigade of infantry on the Norfolk stage road and another at Prince George Court-House, but have no troops to extend any farther. I would therefore suggest if it meets your views, and you have any troops to spare, that for the present a brigade be sent to occupy Old

* See Kautz to Humphreys, 12 m., p. 931.

Court-House and assist in resisting any dash on City Point. Should this suggestion be adopted I would respectfully request the brigade commander be directed to report to Brigadier-General Benham, in command of the defenses of City Point. There is nothing else of importance transpiring here.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
September 19, 1864—1.45 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Dispatch received. I have ordered two brigades of General Heckman's division to proceed at once toward the Old Court-House and report to General Benham. I have also ordered General Benham to send a staff officer to meet the troops at Point of Rocks road and direct their march upon the point agreed upon between you and him.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
September 19, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Defenses, City Point:

I have ordered two brigades to cross the river at pontoon bridge, to march toward the Old Court-House and report to you. You will send a staff officer to the Point of Rocks road to direct the march of the troops upon such points or point as may be desired, upon the information or direction of General Meade.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *September 19, 1864—4.50 p. m.*

General BUTLER:

Your dispatch received 2.30 p. m. while I was out on a reconnaissance. I sent an aide to the pontoon bridge to direct the largest brigade to take post at Old Court-House and the smaller at Batte's house in good supporting distance, one-third of a mile apart.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *September 19, 1864.*

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy have continued to fire at intervals during the day, slightly wounding one or two colored and one of the light battery men. The latter was struck in the leg by a piece of shell fired from a light gun opened by the rebels this forenoon. It

was soon silenced, and did no other damage. My men are generally in good health. I believe Major Ludlow intends to carry out my suggestion of sending over fifty men to capture the enemy's piece to-night. Am to protect the crossing with the light pieces.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department:

There was nothing new on my line yesterday. Everything seems very quiet on the part of the enemy; no firing on my front. I had thought some of riding over to see you to-day; if you will be at home I will do so.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The enemy have opened this morning from the large gun reported as being placed recently in position. This gun is a 7-inch Brooke, not columbiad, and fires very effectively into the fourteen-gun battery at Fort Wilcox. Traverses will have to be put up at once. I would suggest that two of the 30-pounder Parrotts in the rear, near Jordan's house, be placed in the fourteen-gun battery to silence it, or that the Rodman guns be moved to the proper position in the battery to control its fire.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864—1.20 p. m. (Received 1.25 p. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

Your dispatch is received, and instructions in accordance with the suggestions have been given to the chief engineer and chief of artillery.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I send six deserters up. There seems to be nothing new. They all confirm withdrawal of Hoke's division from opposite my right, and that Bushrod Johnson covers the line hitherto occupied by Hoke.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864—2.40 p. m. (Received 2.45 p. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

It is reported from the provost-marshal-general's office that deserters from Wise's brigade state that Hoke returned yesterday at noon and lies in rear of Johnson in a ravine.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

There is nothing to communicate from my line.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 19, 1864.

Capt. A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: The rebels, aided by atmospheric influence, raised the very devil with our auditory nerves during the night, but anomalous as it may appear they were unusually quiet in our brigade front. No unusual circumstances occurred worthy of notice during the last twenty-four hours. I give copy of the substantial part of the report of officer of the trenches:

Nothing unusual has occurred in our front. The officers in charge of the vedettes tell me they have not had any firing on our brigade line, and that the enemy have been more quiet than ever.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. VORIS,
Colonel Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, Comdg. First Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 19, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that no changes have taken place in the disposition of the troops of my command within the past twenty-four hours. Yesterday being Sunday there was no fatigue details except for policing purposes. The trenches are clean and in excellent order.

Very respectfully, yours,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

The officers on my picket-line report trains as running all night last night on the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad. As the atmosphere was damper than usual and I could hear much plainer than usual the musketry firing in front of Petersburg, it is possible this fact may have made the noise of passing trains more noticeable, but I think it proper to report the matter.

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General.

HATCHER'S, *September 19, 1864—5.30 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

We have about 4,000 infantry besides the new regiments, which will number something over 3,000; 1,200 artillery. This does not include the two brigades sent to City Point.

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 19, 1864.

Major-General GIBBON,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have read the communication of your chief of artillery, with your indorsement thereon, of the 14th instant. The difficulties suggested therein I trust are not insurmountable. That you may understand the exact condition of matters, a short statement of the history of the organization of the artillery upon our line may be necessary. Colonel Abbot, of the First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, was ordered to report to me in charge of the siege train of the Armies operating against Richmond, and it was requested by the lieutenant-general that he should be put in charge of all the heavy artillery. Therefore it was arranged in organizing this command that so far as supplying the guns in position with ordnance stores and ammunition and general supervision of the artillery on the line, the line should be under charge of Colonel Abbot, he making reports when called upon to the corps commanders and to these headquarters. But in all matters of using artillery, of directing its action, and its disposition in action, of course the entire control would be under the corps commanders. This has been found to work well and without trouble up to now. I hold Colonel Abbot responsible that a proper supply of ammunition is always kept up in the several redoubts and batteries where there is artillery in position. I should not suppose that any troops would be moved without your orders. If, however, this is not satisfactory I would, on conference with you, see what modifications of the present arrangement could be made. I would be happy to confer with you upon the subject at any time.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General STANNARD,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to say that two brigades of the Second Division of the corps have been ordered away temporarily, and that in case the enemy should threaten an attack you will have to send a portion of your force to the support of General Heckman. General Heckman will be directed to call upon you for troops in case of need.

Very respectfully,

THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 19, 1864.

Brig. Gen. C. A. HECKMAN,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you order two strong brigades of your division to march at once, via Point of Rocks bridge, to City Point, to report to Brigadier-General Benham at the latter point. A staff officer from General Benham will probably meet the command at Point of Rocks; if not, it will proceed direct to City Point, a staff officer being sent on to announce the command to General Benham. As great dispatch is required, the command must move without wagons of any kind and three days' rations be sent after them this afternoon.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
City Point, Va., September 19, 1864.

General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry, near Sycamore Church:

Having been directed by General Meade to take command of the defenses at this point, and understanding that you are now at the front near Sycamore Church, where the enemy are supposed to be, I shall be obliged if you will send me word as to the entire disappearance of the rebels from your front, or as to the probabilities of their approach from that direction at any time. I would suggest that, if you have anything to communicate to headquarters, perhaps the quickest way would be to send direct to the telegraph office here and have the dispatches sent over the wires. I offer this merely as a suggestion, not knowing your facilities of communication.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 19, 1864—3 p. m.

Brigadier-General BENHAM:

GENERAL: The reconnaissance in the vicinity of Sycamore Church has returned, and report that there has been no enemy in that vicinity since last Friday. There is nothing in my front except rebel scouts that annoy the pickets at times.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 19, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: The reports in from the picket-lines show all to be quiet along the line. Captain Speers, at Sycamore Church, reports the enemy in force in his front, but says they made no offensive demonstrations. I have directed Colonel Stedman to ascertain what this force is, and what it is doing there. My report of the scout on the 16th will be sent you this afternoon as soon as it can be prepared. All of the subordinate reports are not in yet. I will also transmit my report of the extent and nature of my line at the same time.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 19, 1864—12 m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Captain Speers, stationed at Sycamore Church, in his report this morning, reports the enemy in force in his front, but that they made no demonstration against his line last night, and that all is quiet. I have directed Colonel Stedman to ascertain more particularly the nature and strength of the enemy's force, and will probably know more about it this afternoon.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864—12.35 p. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: Your note of 12 m. was received with some surprise by the commanding general, as it was expected that the force sent you at 3 a. m. would have enabled you to make a strong reconnaissance from Sycamore Church this morning, as it was sent for that purpose.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 19, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I regret that I misunderstood the purport of your note. I presumed that the force was to be held in reserve to await a development of the intentions of the enemy, as they must be some distance from here. I have and still consider any force in that position as rather mythical. I will, however, go down at once and look after them in person.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 19, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I proceeded down the stage road toward Sycamore Church and met Colonel Stedman returning. He reports that there is no enemy in the vicinity of Sycamore Church, and that there has not been any there since Friday. I have directed Colonel Stedman to report back to his division with his command. I will investigate Captain Speers' reports and ascertain how far he was justified in reiterating his report of last night this morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 19, 1864—4 p. m.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: I directed Colonel Stedman to move his force down on the stage road and send a small force to reconnoiter in the vicinity of Sycamore Church. As I anticipated, he found no enemy, nor has any been seen there since last Friday. I have directed Colonel Stedman to return to his camp and report to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS KAUTZ'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 19, 1864.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: I would respectfully call the attention of the general commanding the cavalry to the state of the picket-line held by my command. Commencing on the right, in the vicinity of Davenport Church, there

is a continuous line of pickets extending eastward by Baxter's Mill to Mount Sinai Church; thence across to Rollins', on the Powhatan stage road, and down the road to Sycamore Church and Cocke's Mill, a distance in all its windings of nearly fifteen miles. To perform this duty I have three regiments and what is left of the First District of Columbia Cavalry, in all not more than 1,400 men. This line is maintained by posting half of the command on alternate days. It is nevertheless too extended to prevent small parties and individual spies and scouts from passing, and quite a number have been killed, wounded, or by the enemy captured in the past month. These captures were only diminished by dismounting the men and posting them as infantry. The restlessness of the horse revealed the sentinel's position in the night to the lurking foe, who generally were on foot and made their attacks from the inside of the line. When it becomes necessary to dismount the men and separate them from their horses to perform their duty, it seems to be a legitimate duty of infantry, and it would be economy to perform all the duty that can be done with infantry by that arm. The duty is very fatiguing to the command and does not accomplish its object—that is, keeping out scouts and spies. It would be much less fatiguing to my command to occupy the main avenues of approach and communication by frequent patrols. To make the line effective against small parties, as well as to give warning and retard the advance of a large force, my command should either be materially increased or the length of the line reduced. The seasons of inactivity should be devoted to the recuperation and discipline of cavalry. The maintenance of such long picket-lines for weeks at a time by cavalry exclusively is destructive of discipline and ruinous to the horses, and destroys its efficiency for sudden and quick movements, which I consider to be the legitimate duty of our cavalry. It is too expensive an arm of service to be wasted away and broken down for defensive purposes that can be as well or better performed by infantry, with the assistance of a relatively small force of mounted men to carry intelligence. Our cavalry camps, necessarily weak in themselves, are by the present system placed beyond all intrenched lines, and, when attacked suddenly, are at the mercy of the enemy, and, as in the case of the First District of Columbia Cavalry, the records of the regiment are lost. I do not submit these suggestions in a spirit of complaint; the necessities of the service justify all deviations from established rules, but I consider it my duty to represent my command as it is, in order to relieve myself from the responsibility of any consequences that may result from conditions that may possibly not be altogether unavoidable. At present there are no reserves; a small force can dash through at almost any point of the line, and to pursue them a portion of the line must for the time being be abandoned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
September 19, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Fort Powhatan:

The enemy's cavalry are reported in force on the Blackwater. Keep a sharp lookout.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 19, 1864—10.05 a. m.

Brigadier-General SHEPLEY,
Norfolk, Va.:

I have ordered one company of the New York Mounted Rifles to report to you at Williamsburg. I have also ordered the remains of the Wisconsin regiment, about 100 men, to report to you for duty to relieve the Twenty-seventh Massachusetts as jail guards, the men of which will be ordered to join their regiments. I would not at present relieve the negro troops. The question of our right to employ negro troops as a provost guard in the city of Norfolk must be fully settled by perfect quiet before we can consent to relieve them.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

SEPTEMBER 19, 1864. (Received 9.55 p. m.)

General SHEPLEY,
Norfolk, Va.:

The enemy's cavalry is reported in force on the Blackwater. Keep a sharp lookout, as it is barely possible they may make a dash toward Portsmouth.

GEO. A. KENSEL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

NORFOLK, VA., *September 19, 1864.*

Brigadier-General VOGDES,
Commanding Defenses, &c., Portsmouth, Va.:

GENERAL: The enemy's cavalry is reported in force on the Blackwater. Keep a sharp lookout, as they [may] make a dash upon your lines.

By order of Brigadier-General Shepley:

WICKHAM HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *September 20, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

You recollect the answer you wrote to the letter of the President I took to you at Culpeper. The copperheads charge that the President has interfered with your arrangements, but that correspondence completely contradicts the charge, and the publication would justify both you and the President. Have you any objection to its publication? Please answer by telegraph.

E. B. WASHBURNE.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 20, 1864—11 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

The Richmond Sentinel of to-day has the following:

A slight ripple of excitement was produced here yesterday by the report that a Yankee raiding party was advancing on Gordonsville, and were within a few miles

of that place. The result of all our inquiries on this head is, that this report originated in the fact that early yesterday a party of Yankee raiders, whose number is not known, visited Rapidan bridge, and after destroying it proceeded to Liberty Mills, five or six miles above, which they also destroyed. From this latter place they are supposed to have gone back to Culpeper.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 20, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

General Lee claims in an official dispatch that in driving back our pickets on the left they captured 90 men from us. In the cavalry fight he claims to have captured 300 prisoners, a large amount of horses, and some arms, besides 2,500 cattle. The ease with which our men of late fall into the hands of the enemy would indicate that they are rather willing prisoners.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864. (Sent 9.10 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have sent to Warren and Davies for official reports of their losses on the 16th and 17th instant. Warren's loss in the reconnaissance of the 16th was slight, but on the 17th, simultaneously with the cavalry raid, a dash was made along the whole length of Warren's picket-line, and I should not be surprised if they picked up a number of prisoners. Kautz lost nearly the whole of the First District of Columbia Cavalry besides many of his pickets; his estimate, however, was not as large as Lee reports, 300.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 20, 1864—11 a. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

General Gregg told me on the way up to Baltimore that his division of cavalry now numbered 6,000 for duty. This gives us a cavalry force of over 9,000 men all told. I want such disposition made of the cavalry at once as will give from 3,000 to 4,000 ready for a service, which I will make known to you either by letter or by calling on you.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—11 a. m. (Received 11.15 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have nothing of particular importance to report this morning beyond what has already been communicated in special dispatches. The enemy yesterday opened from a heavy gun, said to be a 7-inch Brooke placed in their second line on Cemetery Ridge back of the mine. Measures are being taken to reply to this piece and silence it. There

seems to be reliable evidence that Hoke's division has returned to the left of the enemy's line, but instead of resuming its former position in the trenches it is massed in rear behind Cemetery Ridge.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—11.10 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I propose to visit you at City Point to-day if you are going to be at your quarters and you have no objection.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *September 20, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

I shall be at home all day and will be glad to see you here. Admiral Porter and the Assistant Secretary of the Navy will be here.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Gregg's last official report for the 10th instant gives the aggregate present for duty, officers and men, 3,898. Kautz does not make any returns, but I understood from him that his four regiments averaged about 400 for duty. As one, the First District of Columbia, has been nearly destroyed in the recent raid, I should estimate Kautz at not more than 1,500 effectives; this, allowing for increase of recruits since last return, would give at the outside about 5,500 for all the cavalry available for duty. I will instruct Generals Davies and Kautz to hold their commands in readiness for your orders. In the absence of these orders I do not know of any different disposition except to concentrate Davies' division, about 4,000, and leave the picketing from the infantry left to Kautz.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

I have called for returns from Davies and Kautz to date.

WALTHALL HOUSE SIGNAL STATION,
September 20, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER, *Chief Signal Officer:*

All quiet this p. m. The enemy still working on breast-works to our right of Clifton and on fort southwest of the town. The following has been intercepted:

10 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

The camps to our left of open space have decreased, only nine tents remaining. One gun-boat above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

12.45.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One brigade of infantry came from Bermuda Hundred and stopped on open space to our left of Cobb's and are now drilling. Eleven wagons passed open space going to the enemy's front in Chesterfield.

J. Q. E.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 20, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A camp and wagon park heretofore seen in western suburbs of Petersburg have disappeared. A train of about forty wagons passed southward on the road west of city at 2.30 this p. m. About 500 men came into the city from the southwest and moved toward the works opposite Tenth Corps front. A large number of horses, supposed to be artillery horses, observed daily being taken to water in the vicinity of Pocahontas, have not been seen since last Saturday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There has been no change in the disposition of my troops or lines since last report, except such as are going on under charge of the engineer department. I have about 2,400 on fatigue duty.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—1.35 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you relieve the cavalry picket-line from the plank road to the vicinity of Davenport Church. The cavalry picket-line crosses the plank road near the church. The Ninth Corps will picket on the right of the plank road—that is, the right looking south. The cavalry will picket from Davenport Church toward the James. The exact point of connection with the cavalry should be mutually agreed upon. These directions are to be carried out immediately.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Do you intend that my pickets are to be put as far out as the cavalry are? I so understand from the order. Please tell me where Davenport Church is. I do not find it on any map I have.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—3 p. m. (Received 3.15 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

It is intended by General Meade that your pickets should be about on the line of the cavalry pickets, which it is understood cross the plank road near Gary's Church. Davenport Church is on the road from Mount Zion Church to Lee's Mill, about one mile and a half southwest of the Norfolk railroad.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864. (Received 7.30 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

As my picket-line is about four miles in front of my troops, I think it would be well to have one of my brigades out near the intrenchment. As the picket-line is situated now, if a break occurs we might not hear of it until the enemy are in our camps, as the shots could not be heard.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864. (Received 7.30 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Has there been any authoritative designation of the forts and batteries?

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—8 p. m. (Received 8.05 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Yes. The commanding general says send a brigade to the rear line of intrenchments.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—The list and sketch of batteries and redoubts has not been sent in as complete yet.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—8.40 p. m. (Received 8.50 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

General Davies is directed to send out detachments to be posted in front of the infantry pickets on the main road, so as to give timely notice to them of the approach of the enemy. The commanders of the detachments are to be put in communication with the commanders of the infantry pickets in front of which they are posted.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Generals Warren and Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—9.30 p. m.

General HANCOCK:

A salute of 100 guns is to be fired at sunrise to-morrow from the guns bearing on the enemy on General Butler's line, on General Birney's line, and on the portion of the line occupied by General Hancock's troops, in honor of General Sheridan's victory in the Shenandoah Valley.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Major-Generals Warren and Parke and Brigadier-General Davies.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—10.15 p. m. (Received 10.20 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general directs that the picket-line south of the rear line of works be so modified to-morrow morning as to run from the vicinity of Robertson's, on the Weldon railroad, easterly, crossing the plank road near Wascher's or Lucado's, thence past C. Brown's to vicinity of Davenport Church. The line best adapted to the purpose to be selected between the points named.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Generals Warren and Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—10.30 p. m. (Received 10.35 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

General Parke is directed to have his pickets connect with yours at the point designated this afternoon.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864—11.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I think proper to inform you that a cavalry officer reported to an officer of General Miles' staff that the enemy's infantry had fired upon our cavalry picket on the Reams' Station road this evening. I do not know whether this is to be credited or not, but give it for what it is worth.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864—8.45 p. m. (Received 10 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

I have relieved the cavalry pickets from the plank road to the Davenport Church. I am informed that your pickets are one mile to my rear, where they strike the plank road. This will leave the Reams' Station road open and expose my pickets to be taken in rear. I also understand that General Ferrero was out the plank road this evening to the point where the cavalry pickets crossed it, and considered it too far to the front for the infantry pickets. It is between three and four miles to the front of our line, but I referred the matter this afternoon to General Meade, who directed that the infantry pickets should be placed about on the line picketed by the cavalry.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Copy to General Humphreys.)

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864.

General HANCOCK:

Your dispatch received. I will direct the officer in command of the left of my picket-line to connect with and cover your right on the plank road. When the left of my line was posted the position was shown to an officer of your command.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864. (Received 11 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

One of my staff officers will start out at daylight to-morrow to locate our picket-line on the line indicated in dispatch from headquarters Army of the Potomac of 10.15 p. m. and establish a connection with your right on the plank road. My line, as occupied this evening, conforms nearly with the line indicated.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 20, 1864—9 p. m.

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Major-General Hancock has directed me to say that he has been informed from army headquarters that you would send out detachments of cavalry to be posted in front of the infantry pickets on the main roads, and that the commander of these detachments should be put in communication with the commander of the infantry pickets. The general directs me to inform you that the commander of his pickets will be found to-night at Brown's house, where the picket-line crosses the Lee's Mill road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. G. MITCHELL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 31. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864.

I. The Court of Inquiry, of which Capt. R. Bruce Ricketts, First Pennsylvania Light Artillery, is president, convened by Special Orders, No. 218, current series, headquarters Second Army Corps, to examine into and report upon the loss of one gun of the Twelfth New York Battery, during the engagement of August 25, 1864, at Reams' Station, Va., give the following as their opinion thereon: In the opinion of the court no blame is imputable to any person or persons for the loss of one gun of the Twelfth New York Battery in the action of August 25, 1864.

II. The proceedings of the Court of Inquiry in the foregoing case, having been submitted to the major-general commanding, are approved.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

WM. P. WILSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864.

Lieut. WILLIAM N. CHAMBERLIN,
Commanding First New Hampshire Battery:

LIEUTENANT: The captain commanding instructs me to say that he directs you to report with your battery to General Miles, commanding First Division, to accompany a brigade going into a position near the Finn house, at daylight to-morrow morning, the 21st. You will report in person to General Miles to-night for instructions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864.

General MILES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires you to furnish a detail of 500 men, suitably officered, for picket. The picket is intended

to relieve the cavalry picket from the plank road over to Davenport Church, the right resting on the plank road. The detail will march by the headquarters of the cavalry, where a staff officer of the cavalry will be found to go with the officer commanding the detail. If the officer in charge of the detail be sent to these headquarters he will receive further instructions.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. WILSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance transpired in my front yesterday or last night; all very quiet. The enemy's cavalry pickets on the road running west from Vaughan asked for some of our orders respecting deserters. A parcel was sent out to them yesterday afternoon.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The Richmond papers claim that your losses in the affairs of the 16th and 17th amounted to between 60 and 80. The commanding general desires that you will report, with as little delay as practicable, your losses in killed, wounded, and missing on those occasions.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864.

General MEADE:

I notice in the order of General Sherman he orders Atlanta to be inscribed on the flags of his army. Some of our regiments put these things on without orders or authority, and I think the Governor of Pennsylvania has issued orders authorizing the names of battles to be inscribed.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—10.45 a. m. (Received 11.30 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

I am directed by the commanding general to acknowledge your two dispatches of yesterday and to-day in relation to inscriptions on flags.

General Orders, No. 19, of 1862, from the Headquarters of the Army, contains the only instructions ever received from the War Department upon the subject and directs that the commanding general of the army take the necessary steps to carry out the order, but so far as known the General-in-Chief has never published any regulations to govern the matter, and General Meade does not, therefore, consider himself authorized to direct that inscriptions be placed on the flags. He will, however, do all in his power to carry out your wishes with respect to the inscriptions and will at once issue an order for corps commanders to appoint boards to determine what regiments and batteries are entitled to have the names of battles on their colors. The commanding general does not know whether General Sherman and Governor Curtin were authorized to give the order issued by them which you cite. For the regulations respecting chevrons please see paragraph 1586, General Regulations, and paragraph 5, General Orders, No. 191, of 1863, War Department. The regulations do not appear to authorize a chevron for each battle. For those allowed it is probably only necessary to make a requisition on the War Department.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you return the detachment of 200 cavalry serving with you to General Davies, and that you relieve the cavalry picket connecting with your left as far around as a point south of the Gurley house. General Parke will relieve them from that point westward. A suitable point of connection for the pickets of the two corps will be mutually agreed on. These directions will be carried out at once.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

Duplicate sent by orderly.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864—2.40 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I presume it is not intended for us to occupy the cavalry picket-line; it is too far out. I think a good line would be about east from the Perkins house on the railroad, where my infantry pickets now are. I could connect with General Parke on the road running southeasterly from the Gurley house.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864—2.25 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I have just received orders to relieve the line of cavalry pickets from a point south of the Gurley house to the plank road in the vicinity of the church. I am directed to connect with you on the right at such a point as we may mutually agree upon. I will go over to your headquarters and determine this point with you and bring you a sketch of the ground.

J. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

SIGNAL STATION IN FRONT OF FIFTH CORPS,
September 20, 1864—1.05 p. m.

Colonel LOCKE:

At 10 a. m. eleven wagons, loaded with hay, passed to our left on plank road. At 12.30 seventeen wagons passed to our left, apparently loaded.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—3.45 p. m. (Received 4.10 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

It was the intention of the commanding general that the infantry pickets should occupy nearly the line of the cavalry pickets. These it is understood were posted along the road running from Wyatt's in a southeasterly direction to the intersection of a road from Gary's Church to Reams' Station, then up that road to Gary's Church, or near there, crossing the plank road in that vicinity. Probably the cavalry pickets were pressed a little beyond the line I have indicated after General Gregg was directed to push them out as far as practicable, but never reported how far out he had pushed them.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

Instructions have been received to extend the infantry picket-line so as to relieve the cavalry, who are to be withdrawn. The general commanding wishes you to have 500 men ready to send out, and an officer will be sent to you to assist in establishing the picket-line as soon as its location is agreed upon.

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 53. } *September 20, 1864.*

The general commanding has noticed the fact that some regiments of this command have sent their colors to the rear during engagements with the enemy, the very occasion when they should bear them unfurled, protect and defend them. Every regiment should consider it vital to its honor to guard and defend its colors to the last extremity through every peril. It is directed, therefore, in future that each regiment bear its colors when in battle line on the field of action as well as at other times.

By command of Brigadier-General Griffin:

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report all quiet on my front during the last twenty-four hours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you relieve the line of cavalry pickets from a point south of the Gurley house to the plank road in the vicinity of the church. General Warren will relieve them from his left to a point south of the Gurley house, the point of union of your pickets to be mutually agreed upon. General Hancock will take up the line at or near the plank road. The change is to be made immediately.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The cavalry picket-line is at least two miles in front of our line, through the Williams house. Do you mean that we should relieve the cavalry in the line they now occupy, or take up a better line for infantry, so that the cavalry may retire?

Very respectfully,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—4 p. m. (Received 4.30 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

It was the intention of the commanding general that you should occupy the line of the cavalry pickets or nearly that line. Gregg picketed from the Wyatt house on a road running southwest from there until it intersected a road running from Gary's Church to Reams' Station, then up that road to Gary's Church, crossing the plank road in that vicinity. It was the intention of the commanding general that the infantry picket-line should run across from Wyatt's to Gary's Church, &c. Gregg did not report how far he had pushed out his pickets after you requested him to push them out as far as possible.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—10.15 p. m. (Received 10.20 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

It is reported from the Second Corps that your pickets are one mile to the rear of those of the Second Corps on the plank road. The commanding general directs that your line be so modified as to connect with that of the Second Corps at the point designated.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864—10.40 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Dispatch 10.15 received. I have ordered the left of my picket-line to be advanced to-night to connect with and cover the right of General Hancock's line. The line that we took up this evening conforms as nearly with the line indicated in your dispatch striking the plank road at Wascher's or Lucado's. I have directed a staff officer to go out at daylight to-morrow, establish close connection with General Warren's and General Hancock's lines, and locate our line between the points of junction on the most favorable ground.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

It would seem from this that the line taken up by General Parke's pickets did not conform to that prescribed but to the one ordered for to-morrow.

A. A. H[UMPHREYS].

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet along the line picketed by the cavalry. In obedience to your instructions I have ordered Colonel Smith to extend his line to the Blackwater (at Two Bridges) and General Kautz to connect at that point, and picket to James River at a point between Coggins' Point and Wind-Mill Point, and to cover all roads and to patrol in order to arrest all deserters. This order will be carried out this morning; when completed I will report the facts.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—12 m. (Received 12.10 p. m.)

General H. E. DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry:

The commanding general desires to have a more complete report from General Kautz than that just sent in by you. He wishes to have General Kautz make a full report of the operations of his command from the commencement to the termination of the recent raid of the enemy, together with a statement of his losses, and it is requested that the report be sent in with as little delay as practicable.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you concentrate your division and be prepared for immediate movement. General Warren will be directed to send back to you the detachment of 200 men serving with him, and relieve your pickets as far as south of the Gurley house. General Parke will relieve them from that point to the plank road, and General Hancock will relieve them from the plank road to the vicinity of Davenport Church. General Kautz will be charged by you with picketing and watching the line from the vicinity of Davenport Church to the James River. Every available man must be brought into the ranks.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—8.30 p. m. (Received 8.50 p. m.)

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:
(Through headquarters Second Corps.)

The commanding general instructs me to say that the immediate necessity for your movement no longer exists, and directs that you

send out detachments to be posted in front of the infantry pickets on the main roads, so as to give timely notice to them of the approach of the enemy. The commanders of the detachments should be put in communication with the commanders of the infantry pickets in front of which they are posted. It is presumed these detachments could be readily called in should it be necessary for you to move.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 20, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

I had the honor to ask authority for the recruitment of another regiment from prisoners of war at Point Lookout for service on the Northern frontier. This is recommended by the lieutenant-general. Having heard nothing from the communication, I presume it miscarried.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, September 20, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Bermuda Hundred:

Your application to recruit a regiment from prisoners of war was presented to me yesterday by the Adjutant-General and approved. The order is probably on its way to you by mail.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, *September 20, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

The points held by the two brigades you have sent below here I presume are important, in view of the late successful raid of the enemy. I would like, however, that you should hold it with troops from the Tenth Corps, so as to keep all the force possible in Bermuda Hundred.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *September 20, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER and General MEADE:

Fire a salute of 100 guns in honor of Sheridan's great victory in the Shenandoah Valley. The salute may be fired at 7 o'clock to-morrow morning from shotted guns at such points as you may select.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864—6.45 p. m. (Received 6.50 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

I have received your dispatch, and have given orders for my batteries on the left of Birney's line to open so soon as that officer ceases firing.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

My line has been very quiet; nothing of interest, except the opening of the Brooke gun. I will withdraw to-night a portion of my center to the new line in rear, which is completed that far, still holding the advance line. The work on second line is progressing rapidly, and I think a week will complete the redoubts.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 20, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

The following report from General Hunt, chief of artillery, as to the measures taken to silence the Brooke gun, is communicated for your information:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Before Petersburg, September 20, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I yesterday examined the position of the large gun, apparently a columbiad, recently placed in position by the enemy about 1,600 yards northwesterly from Fort Morton. It is west of the railroad cut, about opposite Fort Haskell, from which it is hidden by a wood. Fort Morton can bring four guns to bear upon it, and I have directed the two siege guns now there, and two others transferred from Battery 17, near the Avery house, with the 10-inch mortars, to be opened upon it whenever it fires. In the meantime measures are being taken to determine accurately the bearing and distance from the 8-inch mortars near Forts Haskell and Stedman that a heavy fire may be concentrated upon it.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIG., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 20, 1864.

Capt. CHARLES H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have nothing to report this morning, except the expenditure of 113 rounds of ammunition, fired at the enemy's works and working parties. I have the honor to request that the chief quarter-

master of the corps be directed to supply 10,000 feet of rope for mantlets. The cannoneers are, in many of the batteries, very much exposed to the fire of the enemy's sharpshooters, and the engineer department declines to issue rope.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieut. Col., Assistant Inspector-General and Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 20, 1864.

Capt. CHARLES H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Nothing of interest has occurred on my line during the past twenty-four hours. Only one casualty is reported. The enemy are busy strengthening their line and adding to their obstructions. The work on our line is progressing well, and the line is rapidly changing from a rifle-pit to a good infantry parapet. On my left it is being revetted with sods; on the right, in center, it will have a log revetment. The new line on the right of Sanger's battery is sufficiently advanced to be occupied. There is still much to be done to Redoubt No. 3, but Colonel Rockwell, who has the matter in charge, is pushing the work as rapidly as the means at his disposal will permit.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 20, 1864.

Respectfully returned to Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry, who will occupy the new line on the right of Sanger's battery to-night, still occupying advance line with picket-line.

By command of Major-General Birney:

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 20, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Col. J. C. Abbott, Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers, commanding Second Brigade, who is charged with the carrying into effect the disposition of the troops directed in the above indorsement.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 20, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that no changes have taken place in the disposition of the troops of this division during the past

twenty-four hours. Fatigue details amounting in all to 600 men were at work during the night on Fort McGilvery, the lunette, and the rifle-pits on the right and left of Fort McGilvery. Quite a number of deserters came into my lines during the night of the 18th instant, but were not reported to me early enough to be mentioned in my report of yesterday.

Respectfully, yours,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 20, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: The picket reports are in, and all is reported quiet. Small parties show themselves at points along the line, but no force. The commanding officer of the brigade on the left reports that he has not men enough to hold down to Cocke's Mill; the telegraph road is therefore open in that direction. It should be held if only to intercept our own deserters that are constantly escaping in that direction. The demoralization of the First District of Columbia Cavalry, in consequence of the affair of the 16th, and the capture of the greater portion of the officers, seems to be the main cause of the alarm in that vicinity. They are in a fit state to snatch at any story afloat. The sooner the transfer to the First Maine is effected the better. Special Orders, No. 92, has just been received, which will correct the line as recommended.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

NORFOLK, VA., *September 20, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Point of Rocks, Va.:

We have neither heard nor seen anything of the enemy.

Respectfully, &c.,

GEO. F. SHEPLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 21, 1864.*
(Received 10.30 a. m.)

Hon. E. B. WASHBURNE:

I have no objection to the President using anything I have ever written to him as he sees fit. I think, however, for him to attempt to answer all the charges the opposition will bring against him will be like setting a maiden to work to prove her chastity.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

U. S. SHIP ONONDAGA,
James River, September 21, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Comdg. Armies of the United States, Hdqrs. City Point:

GENERAL: I have ordered one of the gun-boats off the Chickahominy to patrol the river with boats to Jamestown Island, and another gun-boat to patrol from the mouth of the Chickahominy to Wilcox's Wharf, and have instructed the commander of the Hunchback to examine the swash channel off Jamestown Island every day.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
MELANCTON SMITH,
Captain and Divisional Officer, Commanding in James River.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
September 21, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: A deserter from the Thirty-fourth North Carolina, Scales' brigade, of Wilcox's division, has just been forwarded. He came in last evening; states that his brigade (Scales') lies across the Weldon railroad near the lead-works, with McGowan's and Lane's brigades to the right, which is all of Wilcox's division south of the Appomattox. Heth's division is on the extreme right of the line fortifying on the Boydton plank road. Mahone's division is to the left of Scales' brigade, and informant thinks it extends to Beauregard's line. Wright's brigade is on the right of Mahone's division, and joins Scales' brigade; thinks Hoke's division is in reserve somewhere in rear of the line; cannot locate it. Three of our deserters came into the lines of McGowan's brigade on Sunday last; said they had been in the army only two days; had not heard from the Valley when informant left. The last news from Early was that he had driven Sheridan down the Valley. A deserter from the Third Georgia received last evening corroborates this statement in regard to the position of Mahone's and Wilcox's divisions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. C. BABCOCK.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 21, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Major FISHER:

The enemy continue working on new works, left of large fort near Weldon railroad; enlarging works near lead-works. All quiet.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 21, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The following report from the plank road station is respectfully forwarded:

At 10.15 a column of cavalry numbering about 500, followed by three small detachments, making an additional number of about 400, and three pieces of artillery, came

from woods west of the Weldon railroad and disappeared on road running westward in the vicinity of the fort. The enemy continues working on new works, left of the fort west of Weldon railroad, and are enlarging works near lead-works.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 21, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

All quiet this p. m. The following was intercepted:

9 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

The enemy put a gun in position last night and shelled our Dunn's farm battery this a. m. one-half hour, but did no damage.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

12.15 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

A train of twenty wagons passed military road rear of Battery 5 going toward the front in Prince George.

J. Q. E[THEREDGE],
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

2.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Could not see during the entire a. m. Eight six-horse wagons passed open space to our left of Cobb's going toward front in Chesterfield. Gun-boat off Point of Rocks.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

5.15 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One battery drilling rear of Battery 5. Twelve wagons passed on military road rear of Battery 5 going toward enemy's front in Prince George.

J. Q. E.,
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

5.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Twenty-five six-horse wagons passed Broadway road going toward Petersburg.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

6 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

All quiet this p. m. Two gun-boats above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

Enemy still working to our right of Clifton and beyond the city.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 255. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *September 21, 1864.*

1. General Orders, No. 19, of February 22, 1862, from the Headquarters of the Army, provides that there shall be inscribed upon the colors or guidons of all regiments and batteries in the service of the United States the names of the battles in which they have borne a meritorious part, and to the end that said order may be carried out in this army, each corps and independent commander will at once appoint a board of three officers to examine into the services of the regiments or batteries comprising his command and to report what regiments and batteries are entitled to have inscriptions on their flags, together with the names of the battles in which such troops have borne a meritorious part. The reports of the boards will be transmitted to these headquarters at as early a day as practicable.

* * * * * * *

9. By direction of the War Department, the One hundred and eighty-seventh Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers will proceed to Philadelphia, Pa., and report for duty to Major-General Cadwalader, commanding at that place. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *September 21, 1864.*

The names of the field-works constructed along the lines of this army, together with their armaments and garrisons, are indicated in the accompanying printed statement. The armaments and garrisons designated for the forts, lettered from A to N, inclusive, will at once be placed in them and be regarded as permanent, to be moved only when specially directed from these headquarters; the garrisons will be furnished by the corps on whose front the forts are situated. The batteries will, for the present, be occupied as under existing arrangements. The location of the several works is shown on the accompanying sketch.*

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

List of Field-Works, their Armaments and Garrisons.

Field-works.	Name.	Armament.	Garrison (men).	Locality.
Battery 1		Pierced for four guns		In front of Rushmore house, and opposite Fort Clifton.
Battery 2		Pierced for four guns		Near Walthall's, directly in front.
Battery 3		Pierced for four guns		On ridge.
Battery 4		Pierced for four guns *Three 30-pounder Parrotts; one 13-inch siege mortar.		Near Jordan's.

* To appear in the Atlas.

List of Field-Works, their Armaments and Garrisons—Continued.

Field-works.	Name.	Armament.	Garrison (men).	Locality.
Battery 5		Pierced for four guns *Three 30-pounder Parrotts; four 8-inch mortars.		On Appomattox, between two creeks.
Redoubt A	Fort McGilvery.	Pierced for six guns *Six field guns.	300	Near Page's.
Battery 6		Pierced for five guns *Two 30-pounder Parrotts.		Near Hare's.
Battery 7		Mortar battery *Two Coehorns.		
Battery 8		Pierced for three guns		
Lunette Battery 9		Pierced for five guns *Two field guns; three Coehorns.		Near railroad.
Battery 10		Pierced for five guns *Two 6-inch mortars.		Hare's house.
Redoubt B	Fort Stedman	Pierced for six guns *Six field guns.	300	Near Hare's house.
Battery 11		Pierced for four guns		
Battery 12		Mortar battery *Two 8-inch mortars; three Coehorns.		
Redoubt C	Fort Haskell	Pierced for seven guns *Six field guns.	250	
Battery 13		Pierced for six guns		
Battery 14		Pierced for ten guns *Six field guns.		
Redoubt D	Fort Morton	Pierced for ten guns *Two 4½-inch Rodman; four field guns; four 10-inch mortars; six Coehorns near redoubt.	800	Taylor's house (old fourteen-gun battery).
Battery 15		Mortar battery *Two Coehorn mortars.		
Battery 16		Pierced for eight guns		
Battery 17		Pierced for four guns *Four 4½-inch Rodman.		Near Avery's house.
Battery 18		Pierced for one gun *One field gun.		On Norfolk railroad.
Redoubt E	Fort Meikel	Pierced for six guns *Three field guns.	100	Near Norfolk railroad.
Battery 19		Pierced for two guns *Two field guns.		
Redoubt F	Fort Rice	Pierced for eight guns *Six field guns.	180	Old 10-inch mortar battery.
Battery 20		Pierced for four guns		
Battery 21		Pierced for four guns *Four field guns.		
Fort G	Fort Sedgwick	Pierced for twenty-five guns *Four 4½ inch Rodman; two siege howitzers; eight field guns.	800	Advanced work on plank road.
Battery 22		Pierced for eight guns		On plank road.
Redoubt H	Fort Davis	Pierced for nine guns *Eight field guns.	550	On plank road.
Battery 23		Pierced for four guns		Near Chieves' house.
Redoubt I	Fort Prescott.	Pierced for ten guns		Near Jones' house.
Redoubt K	Fort Alexander Hays.	Pierced for nine guns *Four field guns.	300	Near Strong's house.
Battery 24		Pierced for six guns		
Battery 25		Pierced for six guns		
Redoubt L	Fort Howard	Pierced for seven guns *Four field guns.	150	Chimneys.
Battery 26		Pierced for six guns *Four field guns.		
Battery 27		Pierced for four guns		
Bastion Fort M	Fort Wadsworth.	Pierced for ten guns *Eight field guns.	300	At Blick's house, on the Weldon railroad
Battery 28		Pierced for four guns *Two field guns.		
Battery 29		Pierced for four guns *Two field guns.		Globe Tavern.
Battery 30		Pierced for four guns *Two field guns.		
Bastion Fort N	Fort Dushane	Pierced for twelve guns *Six field guns.	600	At White's house, on the Weldon railroad.
Battery 31		Pierced for four guns *Two field guns.		
Battery 32		Pierced for four guns *Two field guns.		

List of Field-Works, their Armaments and Garrisons—Continued.

Field-works.	Name.	Armament.	Garrison (men).	Locality.
Battery 33		Pierced for four guns *Two field guns.		
Battery 34		Pierced for four guns *Two field guns.		
Redoubt O	Fort Davison	Pierced for six guns *Six field guns.	200	Gurley's house.
Battery 35		Pierced for four guns *Two field guns.		
Redoubt P	Fort McMahon	Pierced for twelve guns *Six field guns.	150	Near Smith's.
Redoubt Q	Fort Stevenson.	Pierced for twenty-seven guns *Twelve field guns.	500	Near Williams' house.
Battery 36		Pierced for twenty-eight guns		In front of Williams' house.
Battery 37		Pierced for seven guns *Four field guns.		Chimneys (Alley's), near plank road.
Battery 38		Pierced for eight guns *Two field guns.		
Redoubt R	Fort Blaisdell	Pierced for twelve guns *Four field guns.	150	On plank road.
Battery 39		Pierced for six guns *Two field guns.		
Redoubt S	Fort Kelly	Pierced for eight guns *Four field guns.	200	Near Mrs. Smith's.
Battery 40		Pierced for six guns *Two field guns.		Near T. Jones'.
Battery 41		Pierced for six guns *Two field guns.		Near Norfolk railroad.
Redoubt T	Fort Bross	Pierced for twenty guns *Four field guns.	300	Near Wells', on Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad.

NOTE.—The armaments and garrisons of the redoubts and batteries as above designated (*) are those proposed for the defense of the line upon the withdrawal of the main force of the army for active operations upon other lines.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19, 1864.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 21, 1864.

Lieut. Col. T. S. BOWERS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Armies of the United States:

Colonel Egan is entitled to promotion. He was the first on my list made some time since of those officers who commanded troops. He should date, if possible, from the day he took the enemy's redoubt by assault at the North Anna, May 23, 1864. I recommended my chief of staff first; I desire him promoted.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 21, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: There have been no changes in the position of my troops on the front line since yesterday's report. General Miles relieved the cavalry pickets yesterday evening from the plank road to Davenport

Church. Including the frequent detail on the rear line, the fatigue details, and the brigade at Prince George Court-House, there are now about 4,500 men absent from Miles' and Smyth's divisions.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 32. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *September 21, 1864.*

Capt. H. H. Bingham, One hundred and fortieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and acting judge-advocate of the corps, is announced as acting assistant adjutant-general of the corps during the temporary absence of Capt. William P. Wilson, acting assistant adjutant-general of the corps.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

WM. P. WILSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. J. HUNT,
Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac:

I have the honor to report no change in the enemy's lines observed or reported during the past twenty-four hours. The enemy replied to the salute this morning with a few shots. The First New Hampshire Battery (rifled) went into position near the Finn house early this morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. M. EDGELL,
Captain, Commanding.

(Copy to Capt. W. P. Wilson, acting assistant adjutant-general, Second Corps.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 158. } HDQRS. ARTY. BRIGADE, SECOND CORPS, *September 21, 1864.*

I. The Third New Jersey Battery, Capt. Christian Woerner, commanding, will relieve the Twelfth New York Battery, Lieutenant Dauchy commanding, and take position in Fort Alexander Hays without delay. When relieved Lieutenant Dauchy will report at these headquarters for instructions.

* * * * * *

By command of Capt. F. M. Edgell:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual occurred in my front yesterday or during the night. My picket-line was established last evening almost exactly as the subsequent order by telegraph requires.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 21, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report quiet on my lines during the last twenty-four hours. The picket-line in front of my rear line has been established, joining the Second Corps line on the plank road at the Lucado house.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet during the past night along the cavalry line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 21, 1864—10 a. m. (Received 10.10 a. m.)

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

The infantry picket-line south of the rear line of works is directed to be modified this morning so as to run from the vicinity of Robertson's, on the Weldon railroad, easterly, crossing the plank road near Wascher's or Lucado's, thence past C. Brown's to vicinity of Davenport Church.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 21, 1864—8 p. m. (Received 8.10 p. m.)

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

The commanding general wishes to know where the detachments of cavalry in front of the infantry picket-line are posted, and the force of the different detachments.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY,
September 21, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The detachments in front of the infantry pickets are as follows: One squadron on the railroad, toward Reams'; one on the Wyatt road, to the left of the railroad; one at Gary's Church, toward Reams'; one on the plank road, and one in front of Davenport Church. These squadrons average from seventy to eighty men.

Respectfully,

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, September 21, 1864.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I am about to make a move with my cavalry. It is of the utmost consequence that I have 800 Spencer rifles and 80,000 rounds of ammunition. The requisitions are long since in. May I ask you thus informally to see that I get them. Please notify me by telegram, so that I can make preparations as though I had them.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 21, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have received the following communication from Colonel Duncan, commanding Third Brigade, Third Division, colored troops, which I forward for your information, with the observation that is established beyond doubt that the rebels have put our soldiers to labor under their supposed masters when captured as prisoners of war, and some from this very brigade.

Respectfully,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

CAMP AT DUTCH GAP, VA., *September 21, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: Is it not established with sufficient certainty that the rebels have remitted to slavery, or otherwise put to hard labor, colored prisoners of war captured from us at Plymouth, Petersburg, and elsewhere, to warrant the use of rebel prisoners upon the work now in progress at Dutch Gap, where the shells of the enemy are beginning to tell with considerable effect upon our laboring soldiers? My men would take pleasure in acting as guards; would perform the duty, I think, with unusual pride and efficiency.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

SAMUEL A. DUNCAN,
Colonel, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 21, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Further news from Sheridan is better than the first we heard. In pursuing the enemy up the Valley he may be induced to detach from here. Put every one on the lookout for any movements of the enemy. Should any force be detached we must either manage to bring them back or gain an advantage here.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 21, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *City Point:*

Telegram received. Orders will be given for the utmost vigilance to watch any movement of the enemy and prompt advantage of it taken.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 21, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *City Point:*

I have an old regiment dismounted—the First Maryland Cavalry. Our cavalry force is very much diminished here. Is it possible to mount them? May I request you to order the horses from the Cavalry Bureau to mount them? By an order of the War Department eight companies of our cavalry, armed with Henry rifles, have been ordered to the other army and these are to replace them.

Respectfully,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 21, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Your request for horses to mount the First Maryland Cavalry will receive immediate attention.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
September 21, 1864. (Received 1.13 p. m.)

Lieut. Col. GEORGE A. KENSEL, *Acting Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The following message has just been received from Spring Hill:

A train of six cars loaded with troops toward Petersburg.

A. G. SIMONS,
Lieutenant and Acting Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

(Above telegram repeated to General Grant by General Butler.)

DUTCH GAP, VA., *September 21, 1864.*

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy have fired as usual to-day, doing but little damage. Most of their mortar shells burst in and around my right battery. As long as they direct their attention there I am satisfied, and the labor on the canal need not be interrupted. Their light pieces do no hurt, except to the men, who return their fire.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing of importance on my line. The work on it is progressing with great rapidity. The salute was fired and with considerable effect on the enemy's work. A detailed report will be forwarded. The enemy responded feebly.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. D. B. BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding the department directs me to request you to keep a close watch to see if you can discover any movements of the enemy, and, if so, to report them at once to these headquarters. This precaution will be continued for several days to come.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIG., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 21, 1864.

Capt. CHARLES H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: The following report of the operations of the artillery during the last twenty-four hours is submitted: A salute of ten shotted guns from each piece of artillery on the line was fired at sunrise this morning. I have not as yet ascertained the effect produced on the enemy's works, nor can I in this report give the exact expenditure of ammunition. One hundred and forty-one rounds were fired yesterday and last night and working parties of the enemy were dispersed by the shrapnel used.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieut. Col., Assistant Inspector-General and Chief of Artillery.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 21, 1864.

Capt. A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that no changes have taken place in the disposition of this command during the last twenty-four hours. The officer of the trenches reports this morning:

Circumstances at the front of this brigade during last night were as heretofore, there being nothing observable in the movements of the enemy.

No casualties during the last twenty-four hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. VORIS,
Colonel Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, Comdg. First Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 21, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that no changes have taken place on my line in the disposition of troops. Six hundred men were engaged on fatigue duty during the day or night on the various works, as stated in yesterday's report. The works on my line are progressing rapidly.

Respectfully, yours,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 21, 1864—7 p. m.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: A confused report comes in from the pickets at Sycamore Church that a considerable force was seen this evening some distance south of the church moving east. The men on picket said there was artillery with them. They think to-day that they heard buglers and chopping last night. An officer of the First District of Columbia Cavalry, just in from there, says he went out on the road some distance and saw three horsemen. A sergeant, who had been out some distance farther, says he saw the track of a considerable force on a road running east. I will send a scout out in the morning to ascertain if there is any force in that direction. The First District of Columbia Cavalry are so nervous since their disaster that I do not place much confidence in their reports. The pickets were at Sycamore Church, and the telegraph road is there open. I have not men enough to picket to Cocke's Mill.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., September 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. L. S. BAKER,
Commanding Confederate Forces, Goldsborough, N. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt this day, by flag of truce, of your letter of the 20th instant, referring to several persons who accompany the flag and who desire to enter our lines. You say, "all persons recently sent through our lines went with the distinct understanding and agreement that they were not to return during the present war, and I should be obliged to decline to receive any of them into our lines again." In reply I have to say that I understood this declaration to refer only to those persons whom I choose to receive after examination, as I shall not, and you certainly cannot expect me to, receive whatever persons you choose to send under flag of truce until I have some knowledge of their character.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
EDWARD HARLAND,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 22, 1864—11.30 p. m.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Of 1,438 men sent here yesterday 1,019 had to be sent back to Alexandria. More than half the men coming from there have to be sent immediately back, not belonging to any regiment here. The officers in charge of Camp Distribution are grossly negligent of their duties and ought to be punished for it with stoppage of pay.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 22, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have nothing particular to report as having occurred during the past twenty-four hours. The tri-monthly return for the 20th shows an aggregate present for duty in the Second Cavalry Division, officers and men, 4,203. Kautz's return for same date shows an aggregate of 1,493, making in all 5,696; a little over my estimate of that date. This return of the 20th also shows an aggregate, officers and men, in this army of 47,712, being a gain over the return of the 10th of 4,320. If you do not propose any immediate use of the Second Cavalry Division, now in reserve, I would suggest its being again put on picket duty, as Kautz's command is inadequate from numbers and morale to the task of properly watching the country from the Blackwater to the James.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *September 22, 1864.*
(Received 1 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

You may put the Second Cavalry Division on duty again. Colonel Sharpe has news from Richmond saying that nothing was known there of Early's disaster, but it was understood that his force might be looked

for back there in a few days; also, that if we did not attack soon Lee would. I think our policy for the present will be to hold ourselves ready to receive an attack. If not engaged to-morrow I will go out to see you and inform you fully of what my general plans now are.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 22, 1864.

Lieut. Col. T. S. BOWERS:

I learn that the One hundred and ninety-eighth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, Col. H. G. Sickel, has arrived at City Point. Colonel Sickel formerly served in the Army of the Potomac, and, if consistent with the views of the lieutenant-general commanding, I should be glad to have the regiment assigned to my command. Should it be directed to report to me, I propose to place it in the Fifth Army Corps.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *September 22, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

General Grant directs me to say that the One hundred and ninety-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers will be assigned to your command.

GEO. K. LEET,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 22, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Let this regiment when it reports be assigned to the Fifth Corps.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *September 22, 1864.*

JOHN C. BABCOCK,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

Our agent left Richmond yesterday about 2 p. m., up to which time nothing was publicly known of Early's defeat. The clerks in the War Department reported during the day that Early might soon be expected to return. All business has been suspended in Richmond for sixty days, and the five city battalions have been notified to that effect. Deserters from this army are being put in the Tredegar and other Government works, to enable the men whom they replace to do military duty. It was a current rumor among officers of Lee's army that if they were not attacked soon it would be necessary for them to attack us, and that preparations to that effect were being made. The two pontoon bridges between Drewry's and Chaffin's Bluff have been taken up, and so far as could be learned had not been replaced up to yesterday morning. No movement of troops whatever could be ascertained.

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

(Copy to Lieut. J. I. Davenport, aide-de-camp, headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
September 22, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Three deserters have been forwarded to-day, two from the Thirty-eighth North Carolina, Scales' brigade, and one from the Fifty-ninth Virginia, Wise's brigade. They are all unintelligent, and give no information. They are not aware of any changes on the line within the last two or three days.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. C. BABCOCK.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 22, 1864.

Major FISHER:

All quiet. The enemy continues working on new works left of large fort; also in vicinity of lead-works, all out of range of our batteries.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL HOUSE SIGNAL STATION,
September 22, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

All quiet this p. m. The enemy still working to our right of Clifton and beyond the city. The following was intercepted:

9. A. M.

Colonel B[RENT],
Assistant Adjutant-General:

All quiet this a. m. One gun-boat above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

5.15 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

All quiet this p. m. Gun-boat above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 22, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

There has been no change in the disposition of my command since last report.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 22, 1864—2.30 p. m. (Received 2.40 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

General Davies will be ordered to-day to re-establish the cavalry pickets from Gary's Church to Davenport Church, &c., and inform you as soon as they are posted. The commanding general directs that upon being so informed you withdraw your pickets between the plank road and Davenport Church, and recall the brigade sent to the vicinity of the Finn house, on the plank road.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 22, 1864—2.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I would suggest that if not too late Fort Kelly be called Fort Patrick Kelly, as several officers of this name are known. It may be too late to take any action on the matter now, but I regret that one of the works could not have been named after Colonel McKeen, one of the best known and most deserving officers of this corps. Fort Blaisdell might be changed to Fort McKeen as this would give two from the First and Third Divisions, instead of one and three as now. The fort at Prince George might be called after McKeen. Paragraph 2 of the confidential circular requires the armament to be at once placed in the works. Am I responsible for this, or the chief of artillery?

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 22, 1864. (Sent 5.30 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I don't see any difficulty in adding the first name of Colonel Kelly to the fort so that it will read Fort Patrick Kelly. Probably the best way of introducing Colonel McKeen's name would be as you suggested, to give it to the fort at Prince George Court-House. Probably you have seen and conversed with General Meade since sending the dispatch respecting placing the armaments in the forts. I should say that it was intended that the corps commander should be responsible for it. The armaments of the forts and batteries from the Norfolk railroad to the plank road are under your orders, and should be disposed of by you in accordance with the confidential circular if they do not conform to it now.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 22, 1864—6.10 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

You will notice that the armament in some cases consists of guns not in the artillery of the corps. This is why I asked the question. It will

require thirty-six field guns to arm the works I occupy on front line, according to the order. This will leave me a small amount of artillery with which to move. In case the rear line should be occupied at the same time, it will require eighteen more.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 22, 1864—7.20 p. m. (Received 7.30 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Yes. I understood your reason for asking about the armament. I mentioned the matters of your dispatch to the major-general commanding, and the necessary directions have been given for adding the name of Patrick to Kelly in the lists and sketches that are here and have been distributed, as also upon the fort itself. The guns of the Sixth Corps in your redoubts and batteries are to be used by you in making complete the armaments of the redoubts and batteries as prescribed in the list.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 22, 1864—9.15 p. m. (Received 9.20 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The concluding paragraph of my dispatch of 7.20 is not clearly expressed. The redoubts and batteries from the Norfolk railroad to the plank road are armed with artillery belonging to the Sixth Corps and some siege artillery. If any changes in the positions of these are necessary to fulfill the requirements of the list those changes will be made by your orders.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 22, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

A deserter from Wilcox's old brigade came in to-night. He says Wilcox's old brigade relieved Finegan's in my front a few days ago. He says there is nothing new, but reports that most of their troops are massed on their right, he hears, about ten miles, having moved there about Sunday and Monday. He says that the men over there are ready to hollo and are on half rations.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Forwarded to General Grant.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 241. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *Jones' House, before Petersburg, Sept. 22, 1864.*

I. In accordance with Special Orders, No. 255, headquarters Army of the Potomac, September 21, 1864, Brig. Gen. N. A. Miles, U. S. Volunteers, Col. R. McAllister, Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers, and Capt. R. Bruce Ricketts, First Pennsylvania Artillery, are hereby constituted a board to examine into the services of the regiments and batteries comprising this command, and to report what regiments and batteries are entitled to have inscriptions on their flags, together with the names of the battles in which said troops have borne a meritorious part. The reports of the Board will be transmitted to these headquarters at as early a day as possible.

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By command of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *September 22, 1864.*

The following names have been designated by the commanding general for the batteries and redoubts on the line occupied by this corps, with the armament and garrison set opposite each:

Work and locality.	Name.	Armament.	Garrison (men).
One-gun battery on the Norfolk railroad on front line.	Battery 18	One field gun	
Inclosed work immediately on the left of the Norfolk railroad on front.	Redoubt E, Fort Meikel.	Three field guns	100
Two-gun battery immediately on the left of Fort Meikel.	Battery 19	Two field guns	
Inclosed work on the left of Battery 19, formerly 10-inch mortar battery.	Redoubt F, or Fort Rice.	Six field guns	180
Two-gun battery on left of Fort Rice	Battery 20		
Four-gun battery next on right of work hitherto known as Fort Hell.	Battery 21	Four guns	
Work on plank road hitherto known as Fort Hell, with additional work on the left of the road.	Redoubt G, or Fort Sedgwick.	Four 4½-inch Rodman, two siege howitzers, eight field guns.	800
Large square redoubt on left of plank road hitherto known as Fort Crawford.	Redoubt H, or Fort Davis.	Eight field guns	550
Battery in front of Fort Davis on right of plank road.	Battery 22		
Battery on right of plank road between Chieves' house and Fort Davis.	Battery 23		
Inclosed work on plank road opposite the Jones house.	Redoubt I, or Fort Prescott.		
Inclosed work near Strong's house	Redoubt K, or Fort Alex. Hays.	Four field guns	300
REAR LINE.			
Fort on plank road near the Finn house	Redoubt R, or Fort Blaisdell.	Four field guns	150
Battery between plank road and Widow Smith's	Battery 39	Two field guns	
Inclosed work at Widow Smith's	Redoubt S, or Fort Patrick Kelly	do	200
Battery near T. Jones'.	Battery 40	Two guns	
Battery near Norfolk railroad	Battery 41	do	
Inclosed work near Norfolk railroad near Spicer's.	Redoubt T, or Fort Bross.	Four guns	300

The armament and garrison of the forts lettered from E to K, inclusive, will at once be placed in them, and regarded as permanent, to be moved only under special directions from headquarters of the army.

The batteries will at present be occupied as under existing arrangements. General Mott will at once assign the designated garrison to each of the inclosed works, described as above, and assign a suitable officer to the command of each. As soon as the assignment is made, and the works occupied in accordance with the order, General Mott will report the fact, together with the description of the details for garrisons and the names of commanding officers. Whenever it may become necessary to occupy the rear line the commanding officer of the First Division will garrison Forts Patrick Kelly and Blaisdell, and the commanding officer of the Second Division, Fort Bross, with the strength directed herein. The armament and garrison of the redoubts and batteries as above designated are those proposed for the defense of the line upon the withdrawal of the main force of the army for active operations elsewhere.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. J. HUNT,
Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac:

I have the honor to report no change in the enemy's lines in our front observed or reported and but one or two shots fired during the past twenty-four hours. Woerner's battery has relieved McKnight's in Fort Hays.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. M. EDGELL,
Captain, Commanding.

(Copy to Capt. W. P. Wilson, acting assistant adjutant-general, Second Corps.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. N. A. MILES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that your pickets between the plank road and Davenport Church, together with the brigade in the vicinity of the Finn house, will be withdrawn as soon as General Davies re-establishes his cavalry pickets. You will have a staff officer communicate with General Davies in order that your line may be withdrawn at the proper time.

Inclosed copy of telegram for your information.*

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

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* See Humphreys to Hancock, 2.30 p. m., p. 966.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. R. PIERCE,
Commanding Second Brigade:

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding directs that you send daily, while firing is going on at the front, all your men with telescope rifles, to take suitable positions on General De Trobriand's line.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JOHN HANCOCK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 22, 1864.

Maj. JOHN HANCOCK,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Division:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that in compliance with instructions from the brevet major-general commanding division I have shelled this afternoon two barns in front of the Second Brigade, dislodging the enemy's sharpshooters who would annoy our lines from that point, and damaging materially said buildings to a good extent. This brought on a lively artillery duel, in which the enemy shelled Fort Hell (now Fort Sedgwick) with great accuracy, which enabled me to appreciate the necessity of some repairs and alterations in our embrasures, some having been damaged by the rebel shots and some by the firing of our own guns. The artillery officers stationed there are anxious to have an engineer officer to attend to the matter. The work may be done in one night, and will make our firing more effective if two or three pieces can be brought to bear on some point of the enemy's works, which is not the case now. I therefore respectfully request that an engineer officer be ordered from army headquarters to report at Fort Sedgwick with directions to repair the damaged embrasures and widen the angle of aperture of some of them so as to improve the effect of our artillery fire from that point.

Respectfully submitted.

R. DE TROBRIAND,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 22, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual transpired in my front during yesterday or last night. All was quiet.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 22, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Davies is ordered to re-establish the cavalry picket-line from Gary's Church to Davenport Church. The infantry pickets from plank

road to Davenport Church will then be withdrawn. The cavalry detachments on the main roads in front of infantry picket-line will be maintained and similar detachments established on your western front.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 22, 1864.

[Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*]

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the confidential communication relating to names of forts, &c. The garrisons I have assigned to Forts M and N make one brigade, under General Baxter, about 1,400 strong. Fort M requires about the same force as Fort N. The outworks to it, which are very good, accommodating the men and the lines of defense and field of fire, give it about the same requirements for strength of garrison, although the interior space is considerably less. This is a fault in the trace of the work. This brigade might also furnish a little garrison for Fort O. I have removed the guns at Battery 31 into Fort N, which does the same work, and torn the battery down. As soon as this fort is finished (which it is now nearly) Battery No. 30 can be dispensed with; also Battery No. 27. Battery No. 29 is not located correctly on the map. I propose to rectify somewhat the line between Forts N and M when the parts we are now working on are completed, and in this way I think I can make one battery do the work of 28 and 29; but before doing this I wish to finish an extensive slashing which I am now working on. The whole line, however, is in very good condition to trust to itself at once, should a sudden movement be necessary.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 22, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have the honor to report that no movement of the enemy worthy of notice has been observed and all has been quiet along our lines. The picket-line in our rear connects with the Second and Fifth Corps. The location will be changed somewhat to-day in order to straighten the line, and as soon as properly located the line will be strengthened by slashings, &c.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 22, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Two deserters came in on our front line this a. m. They belong to the Thirty-eighth North Carolina, Colonel Ashford, Scales' brigade. Been in service about seven weeks. No knowledge of position of other commands or movements of troops.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 22, 1864—2.30 p. m. (Received 2.50 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

General Davies, commanding cavalry, is ordered to re-establish the cavalry pickets from Gary's Church to Davenport Church. As soon as they are posted the pickets of the Second Corps from plank road to Davenport Church will be withdrawn. The cavalry are directed to make some connection with the left of your picket-line on the plank road. The detachments of cavalry in front of the infantry line on the main roads will be continued there. The brigade of the Second Corps near the Finn house will be withdrawn.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 22, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

The necessity for holding the Second Division Cavalry in reserve having passed, the commanding general directs that it be used in picketing. The cavalry will picket from Gary's Church across to Davenport Church, &c., the detachments in front of the infantry pickets between the plank road and the Weldon railroad being maintained. Detachments for a similar purpose should be established on the western front of General Warren. The infantry pickets between the plank road and Davenport Church will be withdrawn as soon as the cavalry pickets are established, of which you will please notify the commanding general of the Second Corps. A suitable connection will be made by the cavalry with the termination of the infantry picket-line on the plank road near Wascher's or Lucado's. You will rearrange the cavalry picket-line in such manner as, in your judgment, may be best adapted to the service required of the cavalry, bearing in mind that a strong reserve should be held on or near the plank road for emergencies. When your arrangements are completed, please report the disposition you have made, accompanied by explanations on one of the photographed maps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION,
September 22, 1864.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to forward the following report of the position and numbers of my pickets established under the last orders from headquarters Army of the Potomac. On the Vaughan road in the western front of the Fifth Corps is a force of 120 men, their reserve stationed at the outside infantry line and their vedettes thrown down the road within sight of the enemy's pickets about one-quarter of a mile. On the Weldon railroad a force of fifty men is posted as a reserve at the outside infanty line, with fifty employed in picketing toward Reams' Station and on the Wyatt road, covering over half a mile to the front.

Half a mile to the left of the railroad a force is posted of fifty men, picketing several small wood roads in front of the infantry line for half a mile to the front. The infantry line is the same held by our cavalry before the recent concentration of the brigade. I have no copy of the photographic map of the army in my possession, or I would send it up marked. My officers report that the number of men is more than sufficient to accomplish the object for which the picketing is done.

Respectfully,

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY,
September 22, 1864.

Col. C. H. SMITH,
Comdg. Second Brig., Second Div. Cav., Army of the Potomac:

COLONEL: The necessity of holding this division in reserve having passed you will please take up your line as follows, viz: Picket from Gary's Church to Davenport Church with force sufficient to resist an attack, and keep a strong reserve on plank road; also picket on Gary's Church road toward Reams' Station. The infantry pickets left will rest on plank road at Lucado's or Wascher's, where you can communicate with them on your right.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Please report when this line is established in order that it may be reported to General Hancock that he may withdraw his infantry from that portion of the line.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, September 22, 1864—11.10 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Bermuda Hundred:

The Chief of Ordnance reports that the 300 Spencer rifles requested in your telegram of yesterday will be forwarded to-day.* The ammunition is at Fort Monroe, and can be had by your requisition on the ordnance officer there. Please send me a copy of the former requisition referred to in your telegram, in order that the delay, if any, may be investigated. The Chief of Ordnance reports that none was made on his bureau.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., September 22, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Commanding, Fort Monroe, Va.:

You are authorized by the Secretary of War to recruit a regiment of volunteer infantry at Point Lookout, as requested in your letter of Sep-

*Butler's original dispatch reads 800 Spencer rifles; see p. 959.

tember 15. The terms of service will be for one, two, or three years, as the men may elect. Recruitment, organizations, and musters to conform to existing regulations. Officers will be appointed in accordance with the requirements of Circular No. 62 from this office. Arms and other supplies will be furnished on your requisition. So soon as recruited the regiment will be reported to the Adjutant-General with view to its being ordered to the Northern frontier.

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 22, 1864—4.40 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Please let the troops you have near this place remain where they are for the present, and if it does not make too much change in your present front send the remainder of the brigade now here. I am having a line of fortifications laid out and commenced for contingencies which may arise and which I will explain when I see you.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
September 22, 1864.

Lieut. Col. G. A. KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The following message has just been received from Spring Hill:

The enemy have a large force at work strengthening their breast-works on different places of their lines.

A. G. SIMONS,
Lieutenant and Acting Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *September 22, 1864.*

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to state that the enemy have fired but few shots to-day, owing to the fact that prisoners were being exchanged. Am having a battery, with three embrasures for light pieces, built to the left of the mortar batteries, in order to engage the rebel light guns stationed in an angle of the woods. As far as my company is concerned, everything goes on well. We all work hard; do the best we can.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 22, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

Everything unusually quiet on my line during past twenty-four hours.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 22, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A deserter confirms the report that Hoke has returned. Says that he is in reserve behind Bushrod Johnson drilling. He also reports the return of other troops from Weldon railroad to reserve at what he calls the wagon yard.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 22, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Is not the assignment of 800 men to Fort Morton a typographical error? The work will not accommodate over 300 men, its present garrison. Please answer.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 22, 1864. (Sent 1.30 p. m.)

General D. B. BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

Major Michler, Engineers, who arranged the garrisons for the field-works, is at present absent from camp. I will lay your dispatch before him when he returns and let you know whether there has been any error with regard to the garrison assigned to Fort Morton.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 22, 1864—6.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. D. B. BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

Major Michler, acting chief engineers, states that in assigning 800 men as the garrison of Fort Morton, it was designed that this garrison should also occupy Battery No. 14, on the right. If the garrison cannot be accommodated in the fort and redoubt, it can be placed in the covered way adjacent.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 22, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

General Humphreys says that it will not be necessary to have the garrison put into the redoubt at once, but merely have them selected to avoid confusion in the event of a sudden movement. The relative strength of the garrisons he knows nothing of. I will arrange them this evening when Major Michler returns and will inform you in the morning.

G. L. GILLESPIE,
Captain of Engineers.

HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIG., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 22, 1864.

Capt. CHARLES H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: The following report of the operations of the Artillery Brigade during the last twenty-four hours is respectfully submitted: Four hundred and seventy-two rounds were fired at the city of Petersburg and the enemy's works, nearly all of which were expended in firing the salute at sunrise yesterday morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieut. Col., Assistant Inspector-General and Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 22, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that no changes have been made in the disposition of the troops of my command during the past twenty-four hours. Fatigue details were engaged in work on Fort McGilvery, the lunette at the left of the railroad, and on the parapet on the right and left of Fort McGilvery, and much progress has been made.

Respectfully, yours,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 7. } *Before Petersburg, Va., September 22, 1864.*

1. In accordance with orders from headquarters Tenth Army Corps, this command will be hereafter designated the First Brigade, Third Division, Tenth Army Corps. Regimental commanders will make all reports required by existing orders direct to these headquarters. Col. James Shaw, jr., Seventh U. S. Colored Troops, will resume command of his regiment. The officers composing his personal staff as brigade commanders will report to their regiments for duty.

2. Hereafter all commissioned officers on returning from leave of absence, or those reporting for duty for the first time, will report in person at these headquarters before going on duty with their respective commands. When the division is organized they will report as above ordered at the division headquarters.

By command of Brig. Gen. William Birney:

M. BAILEY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE, KAUTZ'S DIVISION,
September 22, 1864.

Capt. M. J. ASCH,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: In accordance to instructions from commanding general of last evening, I sent out a reconnaissance at 4 o'clock this morning. Lieutenant Irwin, the officer in charge, returned at 8 o'clock and reports:

I have thoroughly examined the country in the vicinity of Sycamore Church and for miles on the left and front, and find no trace or indication of any force of the enemy since last raid.

Lieutenant Irwin is a reliable officer.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. P. SPEAR,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

NORFOLK, VA., *September 22, 1864.*

Lieutenant-Colonel KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff, Point of Rocks, Va.:

A reconnoitering force sent beyond Suffolk hears of no enemy on or near the Blackwater.

Respectfully, &c.,

GEO. F. SHEPLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
September 22, 1864.

General SHEPLEY,
Norfolk:

The enemy has undoubtedly left the vicinity of the Blackwater some days ago and returned to Petersburg.

G. W. KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, *September 23, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

If General Hancock is going to take his leave of absence he had better start in the morning. General Gibbon has been relieved from duty with the Eighteenth Corps and will be back to the Second on day after to morrow.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 23, 1864—11 a. m. (Received 11.10 a. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

The quiet of the lines has not been disturbed during the past twenty-four hours. The Second Cavalry Division have been placed on duty, and, in connection with Kautz's division, are watching and picketing the country from the Jerusalem plank road to the James; the infantry picketing the rear from the Jerusalem plank road to the Weldon railroad.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 23, 1864—11.30 a. m. (Received 11.40 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The signal officer on Weldon railroad reports that at 10.20 a. m. to-day six regiments of infantry, followed by three ambulances, moved to our left on the Squirrel Level road. I have a copy of the Richmond Enquirer of the 22d with an official dispatch from Lee reporting the falling back of Early from Winchester to Fisher's Hill, and acknowledging the death of Generals Rodes and Godwin, and the wounding of Fitz Lee. The losses reported to be severe. Three pieces of artillery were lost, but the trains and supplies brought off safely.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *September 23, 1864.*

General MEADE:

Order a salute of 100 guns, shotted, at daylight to-morrow morning in honor of Sheridan's second great victory.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

(Same to General Butler.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 23, 1864—10 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

I congratulate you and the country most heartily on the glorious news from Sheridan. I have ordered a salute of 100 shotted guns from Hancock's batteries, the center of my line, at sunrise to-morrow.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
September 23, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from the Fourteenth Alabama, Sanders' brigade, of Mahone's division, came into the lines of the Second Army Corps last evening on the Jerusalem plank road. He states that most

of the army is upon the right fortifying and that they are only keeping up a skeleton line in the center. His brigade, he thinks, is on the right of the Jerusalem plank road, extending just across it. He thinks Mahone's division lies principally to the right of the plank road; cannot say what troops are to the left of the plank road extending toward Beauregard, but thinks Mahone's old brigade is in there somewhere; has not much intelligence. His regiment is 161 men bearing arms. His company, the largest in his regiment, has twenty-one men for duty. From his estimates of the other regiments in the brigade, Sanders' strength is about 800 men. No news of Early's defeat has yet reached the army.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 23, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Enemy working in small force on our extreme left. All quiet.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

JORDAN'S HOUSE, *September 23, 1864—10 a. m.*

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

The enemy are using horses on the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad hauling platform-cars loaded with lumber toward Petersburg. I send the following rebel message:

9.30 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT],
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy's camps to the rear of open space to the left of Cobb's have decreased. One gun-boat above pontoon all night. The cars were heard constantly running on the City Point Railroad.

S.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

T. R. CLARK,
Captain and Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 23, 1864—3.20 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 3 p. m. a brigade of infantry, numbering about 1,100, came from the left on line of Weldon railroad and disappeared in woods west of railroad apparently moving toward Petersburg.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

SEPTEMBER 23, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major FISHER:

A small party of enemy have been digging at each of two points of second line to-day. The object of their work could not be determined. Please send by bearer the letter and telegram of Lieutenant Hill's which you sent to Captain Taylor and Lieutenant Clarke and I will return it early in the morning.

I. S. LYON,
Signal Officer.

WALTHALL HOUSE SIGNAL STATION,
September 23, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

All quiet this p. m. The enemy still working beyond the city to our right of Clifton. The following has been intercepted:

9 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT],
Assistant Adjutant-General:

One regiment of infantry drilling in open space to our left of Cobb's. One gun-boat above pontoon. Cars are constantly running to and from City Point.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

2.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Three companies of infantry accompanied by seven wagons came from enemy's front in Prince George going toward City Point. Fifteen wagons came from same place going toward front.

J. Q. E.,
Sergeant.

(Same to A. B.)

4.15 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Three companies of infantry drilling at the works on Gilliam's farm. One regiment of infantry and one cavalry drilling in open space to the left of Cobb's.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

5.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One regiment of infantry now drilling on Gilliam's farm; they have now retired behind the battery. One gun-boat above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

5.45 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Fifteen wagons passed on military road rear of Battery 5 going toward City Point. Eight passed on same road going toward Petersburg.

J. Q. E.,
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

SEPTEMBER 23, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

There has been a detail busy part of the day bringing timber down toward the enemy's works in front of four-gun battery. Other details same as usual. No movement to-day.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 37. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *September 23, 1864.*

The following order* of the commander of the Second Division, Second Army Corps, having been transmitted to these headquarters for the consideration of the commanding general, the same is approved and confirmed, and it is announced that, hereafter, no regiment or battery that loses its colors in action will be allowed to carry others without the authority of the commanding general, and such permission will not be given in cases where it shall appear that a regiment or battery has lost its colors through misconduct in battle, until such troops shall, by their bravery on other fields, have fully retrieved their tarnished honor.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *September 23, 1864.*

Fort S in the line of intrenchments, designated as Fort Kelly, will be known as Fort Patrick Kelly.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 23, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General MEADE:

I forward a copy of Richmond paper of the 22d, by orderly. It contains a dispatch from Lee to Secretary of War, announcing the defeat of Early, with death of Rodes and General A. C. Godwin, and wounding of Fitz Lee. Says Early has fallen back to Fisher's Hill; also, contains a rather doleful editorial on the subject, and another admitting a scarcity of supplies in the Army of Northern Virginia.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

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* See General Orders, No. 63, August 30, p. 595.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 23, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following list of casualties in the command from the 20th to the 31st of August, 1864, inclusive:

	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Total.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
Corps headquarters	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	2	.....	2
Engineer Battalion	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Artillery Brigade	1	10	1	22	3	71	5	103	108
First Division	11	33	25	159	39	1,036	75	1,228	1,303
Second Division	6	30	22	176	38	905	66	1,111	1,177
Third Division	.....	1	.....	4	1	11	1	16	17
Total	19	74	48	361	82	2,023	149	2,458	2,607

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 23, 1864—8 a. m.

Capt. J. N. CRAIG,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Artillery Hdqrs., Army of the Potomac:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report no change in the enemy's lines observed or reported during the past twenty-four hours. About 4 p. m. yesterday the batteries on our right opened upon a small working party of the enemy to our left, and invisible to the batteries of this corps. The enemy replied from his batteries in our front. A few shots from Clark's, Dow's, and Burton's batteries soon silenced them, when the firing ceased. No casualties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
F. M. EDGELL,
Captain, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 23, 1864.

The following names have been designated by the commanding general for the batteries and redoubts on the line occupied by this division, with the armament and garrison set opposite each:

One-gun battery on Norfolk railroad on front line—Battery 18; one field gun.

Inclosed work immediately on the left of Norfolk railroad—Fort Meikel; three guns, 100 men.

Two-gun battery immediately to the left of Fort Meikel—Battery 19; two guns.

Inclosed work to left of Battery 19, formerly 10-inch mortar battery—Fort Rice; six guns, 180 men.

Two-gun battery to the left of Fort Rice—Battery 20.

Four-gun battery next on right of work hitherto known as Fort Hell—Battery 21; four guns.

Work on plank road hitherto known as Fort Hell, with additional work on the left of the road—Fort Sedgwick; 800 men, four 4½-inch Rodman, two siege howitzers, eight field guns.

Large square redoubt on left of plank road, hitherto known as Fort Crawford—Fort Davis; eight field guns, 550 men.

Battery in front of Fort Davis on right of plank road—Battery 22.

Inclosed work near the Strong house—Fort Alexander Hays; four guns, 150 men.

The garrisons will be immediately placed in the forts and regarded as permanent, to be moved only under special directions from headquarters of the army. General De Trobriand will at once assign the designated garrisons to Forts Meikel, Rice, and Sedgwick; Colonel McAllister to Fort Davis, and General Pierce to Fort Alexander Hays, and assign a suitable officer to the command of each. As soon as the assignment is made and the works occupied in accordance with this order they will report the fact, together with the description of the details for garrison and names of commanding officers.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

JOHN HANCOCK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 23, 1864.

The commanding officer of the Eighty-sixth New York Volunteers will leave 90 or 100 men in Fort Meikel, and with balance will relieve the Seventy-third New York Volunteers at Fort Rice (late Fort Warren). The commanding officer of the Seventy-third New York Volunteers, when so relieved, will take the place vacated by the Eighty-sixth New York Volunteers, in line between the One hundred and twenty-fourth New York Volunteers and Fort Meikel. The commanding officer of the First Maine Heavy Artillery will relieve the Second U. S. Sharpshooters and the Fortieth New York Volunteers at Fort Sedgwick. The commanding officers of the Second U. S. Sharpshooters and the Fortieth New York Volunteers will take the place vacated by the First Maine Heavy Artillery, in line, the Second U. S. Sharpshooters on the right and the Fortieth New York Volunteers on the left. This movement will commence at 10 a. m. 24th instant, and will be carried out quickly and quietly, using the covered ways altogether, so as not to attract the attention of the enemy.

By command of Brig. Gen. R. de Trobriand:

J. M. LINNARD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 3D DIV., 2D ARMY CORPS,
No. 78. } *September 23, 1864.*

In obedience to orders from the major-general commanding division, the following change in the garrison of Fort Davis (Fort Crawford) will be made:

I. Colonel Schoonover, commanding Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers, will move his command out of the fort to the place now occupied by the Eleventh Massachusetts Volunteers.

II. Major Rivers, commanding Eleventh Massachusetts Volunteers, will take the place of the Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers, with his command, in the fort. The commandants of the above-named regiments will effect this change at 6 o'clock to-morrow morning.

By command of Col. Robert McAllister:

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 23, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual occurred in my front yesterday or during the night. All the pioneers of the corps yesterday slashing timber to the west of these headquarters. A deserter from Twenty-second North Carolina was received this morning and will be sent up.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SEPTEMBER 23, 1864—10.20 a. m.

Captain DAVIS:

Six regiments of infantry passed to our left upon Squirrel Level road. They were followed by three ambulances.

GEO. J. CLARKE,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 23, 1864—9 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report quiet on my lines during the last twenty-four hours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 23, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on the cavalry picket-line. The line is established as directed. A map of the line is being prepared, and will be forwarded as soon as it is practicable to complete it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 23, 1864—10.30 a. m. (Sent 10.40 a. m.)

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

Major Michler, acting chief engineer, will send an officer to map the country southward. Please furnish this officer with a suitable escort. He will call on you for the purpose.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
September 23, 1864—9.20 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Glorious news. It will be so foggy at daylight that we cannot see what to fire at. May I say 8 a. m. to-morrow instead of daybreak?

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 23, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

You can make the salute to-morrow morning at your own hour.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

(Same to Major-General Meade.)

DUTCH GAP, VA., *September 23, 1864.*

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy have made very poor practice at the canal to-day, hurting no one. They opened with sharpshooters this a. m., firing at every one who passed along the bank. A few shells from the mortars caused them to cease. They were driven out of their battery in the field this afternoon, and commenced firing from the old position in the point of woods. A disposition is manifested on the part of some in charge of the excavation to abandon the work. Can see no manner of reason for doing so. Have been here three weeks and have found no hotter place than our right mortar battery. Took occasion to speak very plainly to the man in charge of the digging (a citizen) to-day; spoke just what I thought. There are more persons frightened than hurt in this locality. Shall take care of the prisoners.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 134. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 23, 1864.

1. Col. F. A. Osborn, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty with the Second Division. In relieving Col-

onel Osborn from that duty the commanding general desires to express his approval of the zeal and ability with which Colonel Osborn has discharged the trust.

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By command of Major-General Birney:

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIG., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 23, 1864.

Capt. CHARLES H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the Artillery Brigade during the last twenty-four hours: Forty-three rounds were fired yesterday at the enemy's working parties and signal men. There is nothing more to report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieut. Col., Assistant Inspector-General and Chief of Artillery.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 29. } HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIGADE, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 23, 1864.

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III. The following changes of artillery on the line of intrenchments will take place immediately after dark this evening: Captain Lee's battery of 10-pounder Parrotts—two into the new redoubts near and on the left of the present position of the battery, one to the small redan on the right of the Petersburg and City Point Railroad, and one into the new redoubt on the left of the railroad. Captain Riggs' battery of light 12-pounders—three into the new redoubt first mentioned above, one to the small redan on the right of the Petersburg and City Point Railroad, and two into the new redoubt on the left of the railroad. Lieutenant Smith, First Connecticut Battery, acting assistant inspector-general, will point out the places for the guns and give such other directions as may be necessary to carry out this order.

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By order of Lieutenant-Colonel Jackson, chief of artillery:

O. S. DEWEY,
First Lieut., 33d New York Battery, Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 98. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 23, 1864.

I. In compliance with instructions from headquarters Tenth Army Corps, Col. Louis Bell, Fourth New Hampshire Volunteers, is hereby released from arrest, and will assume command of the Third Brigade, Second Division, relieving Col. F. A. Osborn, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers.

II. In consequence of the return to duty of Col. Louis Bell, Fourth New Hampshire Volunteers, Col. F. A. Osborn, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, is hereby relieved from command of the Third Brigade, Second Division, and will report at headquarters Tenth Army Corps.

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By order of Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster:

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SEPTEMBER 23, 1864. (Received 7.20 p. m.)

General ORD:

General Butler thinks it will be well to relax your rule about communication between the pickets, and let them exchange papers; anyhow, it can be tried for awhile.

GEO. A. KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Deep Bottom, Va., September 23, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of Va. and N. C.:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report for the information of the major-general commanding, in obedience to instructions of September 21, that last night my pickets at the lower post below Four-Mile Creek heard chopping in the woods in their front beyond the rebel advanced pickets and across Strawberry Plains. There were also early this morning more picket fires than usual in the same woods. Their main picket-line at that point is supposed to run through the woods along or near the road from New Market Hill to Malvern Hill, only two or three vedettes having been visible on the plain. No change in their picket-line above or below Four-Mile Creek is visible this a. m., nor any change within the small portion of their lines that can be seen from within our lines. Considerable changes have been heretofore observed in the number and size of picket-fires above Four-Mile Creek when there has been no change in the strength of the picket and nothing in the weather to account for it. The officer of the outpost thought the fires not picket but camp fires, or intended to be thought camp-fires.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. PAINE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 24, 1864—3 p. m. (Sent 3.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I beg leave to refer to you a dispatch* just received from General Birney. When you directed me to take command of all the troops and line now occupied by General Birney I requested him to send to these

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* See Birney to Williams, beginning—I have the honor, &c., p. 1004.

headquarters any deserters that might come in, that I might be apprised of the position and forces of the enemy in the immediate front I was directed to defend. It would appear Major-General Butler has, with a knowledge of this fact, countermanded, without any reference to me, this order. I beg you will decide whether I had the authority to act as I have done, and if so, you will notify Major-General Butler of your decision, and request him to rescind his order.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 24, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

The order giving you command of all the forces south of the Appomattox was given by telegraph whilst General Butler was absent, and may not have been known of by him. Your order to General Birney was right, but as troops of the Army of the Potomac take up the whole of the line occupied by the Tenth Corps to-night, it will only be necessary for me to inform General Butler why you gave Birney the orders you did.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *September 24, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

The infantry commander at Old Court-House reports to General Benham that for the last few nights the cavalry pickets have come back near to the infantry, saying that the enemy in front were too strong for them. Have you heard of any force of the enemy in that direction? If there is such a force it ought to be driven away.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 24, 1864—7.30 p. m. (Sent 8 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have not heard of any enemy in the direction reported by the cavalry pickets to General Benham's infantry, and I don't believe there is any force there or has been, but since the cattle raid Kautz's cavalry have been somewhat demoralized, and I have no doubt they came in on some such pretext. I have sent your dispatch to Kautz.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
September 24, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Four deserters just forwarded from Second Army Corps. They came into General Mott's lines last evening. They are from the Ninth and Tenth Alabama Regiments, of Sanders' brigade. They report

no changes of the enemy's line. A rumor has been current that Whiting's division of North Carolina militia had been added to the army in our front, and was lying between A. P. Hill's corps and Beauregard's command. One of informants (the most intelligent) says it a mere rumor, and he thinks no re-enforcements have been received. Heth's division, or a part of it, is lying on the left of Hill's corps and connects with Johnson's division, of Beauregard's command. Hoke's division is in reserve.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
September 24, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Our men met last night three several agents, who returned from Richmond yesterday. From different sources the following information is obtained. A very large force of cavalry is encamped on New Market Hill. It is understood that General Wade Hampton is personally in command, and that the force comprises his own division, with the most of all the cavalry belonging to the enemy. Unusual vigilance is exercised on the north side of the James, and large details for scouting purposes have been made from the Texas brigade on that side of the river. One of our agents yesterday morning, while perfecting his arrangements to leave town, saw a soldier of General Early's command with whom he was acquainted. The soldier was reading one of yesterday's papers, and referring to the accounts of the fights in the Valley, and the way in which the rebel loss was underestimated, remarked as follows:

> This paper is a humbug, and what it says about Early is a lie. I have just come from him, and he is this side of Gordonsville, having been obliged to fight heavily all the way.

From another agent we learn that there was a rumor in circulation in Richmond yesterday that Early was eighteen miles this side of Gordonsville. Immediately after the fall of Atlanta gold had a large advance; after that, it receded to 2300 per cent. Day before yesterday, after the news from Early, it advanced to 2600 per cent., and yesterday the brokers announced that for the present no sales of it would be made. They were unwilling to fix any price at which they would sell it. All kinds of meat advanced yesterday $2 per pound. It was said that guns were being forwarded as rapidly as possible from the arsenal in Richmond to the front, and there is a reiteration of the former news that all business is suspended for a time, and no work to be done in the Government manufactories, except such as can be done by the employment of our deserters. The former rumors in regard to the abandonment of Petersburg were still in circulation in Richmond, and seem to have gained strength. Our agents could not find that these rumors rested on any new facts. No wounded from Early were being received in Richmond, nor were there any but scattering arrivals from him. There were about 100 men in each of the batteries in the last line of works about Richmond; nothing at all in the two outer lines. Files of Richmond papers are forwarded herewith.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

PLANK ROAD STATION,
September 24, 1864—8 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

The enemy by large detail are working on their works in vicinity of large fort. No change visible in camps or lines.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 24, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

All quiet this p. m. The enemy are placing abatis before their works to our right of Clifton. They are still working beyond the city. The following was intercepted:

10 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

All quiet since 8 a. m. One gun-boat above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

1.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Twelve wagons passed open space rear of Battery 5, going toward Petersburg. Artillery company still encamped in open space rear of Battery 5.

J. Q. E.,
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

6 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

All quiet this p. m. One gun-boat above pontoon.

S.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

This place is now designated Battery No. 2.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 258. } *September 24, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

5. The One hundred and ninety-eighth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, having reported in compliance with instructions from headquarters Armies of the United States, is assigned to the Fifth Army Corps.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864. (Received 7 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

I suppose the siege guns ordered to be put in position on my line will be ordered there from your headquarters, as there are no siege guns on the line at present.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

—

General HUNT:

I suppose from this that the siege guns in Fort Sedgwick have been removed. How about the battery near the Avery house?

A. A. H[UMPHREYS].

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864—9 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There has been no change in the disposition of my command since last report. Five deserters from Wilcox's old brigade were sent up this morning; detail made for repairing embrasures in Fort Sedgwick under Lieutenant Benyaurd.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 24, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The siege artillery of your line will be put in position by the chief of artillery here. If any change should be made in the armament by substitution of field artillery for siege artillery you will be duly notified, and the field artillery will be supplied.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 24, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you make the necessary arrangements immediately to relieve General Birney along the whole line held by him, from Mott's right to the Appomattox. You will relieve as much of his line to-night as practicable. You will relieve the garrisons of the inclosed works on Birney's front, also designating the garrisons for them.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 24, 1864—12.40 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

You can withdraw your brigades of infantry and batteries of artillery on the Norfolk railroad and at Prince George Court-House.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 24, 1864—1.05 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that in relieving General Birney you must use the batteries of artillery you have in reserve. General Hunt has in reserve twelve field guns, which are also at your disposition. Four of these form a horse battery. Should it be necessary, General Hunt will be directed to put some more siege guns in the redoubts on the front now held by General Birney.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 24, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

It is considered that the four guns in Battery No. 20 might be removed without materially weakening the line there, and they are therefore available for transfer to the line now held by Birney. The armament for Battery No. 6, near Fort McGilvery, is marked for two 30-pounder Parrotts, but the difficulty of supplying them with ammunition makes it desirable to substitute two field guns for the armament.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864—9.20 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Birney has fifty cavalrymen picketing to the river taken from his body guard, which must be stronger than mine to admit of such detail. I will replace them with infantry unless it is thought necessary to have cavalry there.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

[Indorsements.]

General MEADE:

Is there any special reason for cavalry pickets at the place indicated? I know of none.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

Nor I.

G. G. M[EADE].

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864—9.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

In the confidential circular with regard to the armament of forts, &c., one paragraph directs that the armament be at once placed in the forts; the succeeding paragraph directs the batteries to be occupied as at present. In order to carry out the first paragraph I must take some artillery from the batteries, and so disregard in a measure the second paragraph. I ask your instructions in the matter before proceeding to place the required armament in the forts, as I had intended doing, at the expense of the batteries.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 24, 1864—10.05 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Yes. The armaments of the redoubts is to be first completed; next that of the batteries with the armaments marked with an asterisk (or star), and last the batteries where it is merely stated pierced for so many guns. Probably you will not be able to arm any of the last named. No particular reason is known here for having cavalry pickets at the place you mention.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

In order to be nearer the center of my line I propose moving my headquarters to the Deserted House to-morrow morning.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to invite the attention of the major-general commanding to the large number of men detailed from this corps for fatigue for some time past, and to ask if some measures cannot be adopted to lessen the amount of duty of this nature exacted of my command. The average daily detail from the command during the past week has been 2,700 men, the number, including picket details, being on some occasions as high as 3,100 men. These details are made necessarily from the First and Second Divisions, the Third Division holding the line from Fort Alexander Hays to Fort Meikel, and furnishing a daily picket of about 500 men in front of this line; it also furnishes working parties to a considerable extent where the work required

does not take the men far from the line. The field return of these two divisions exhibits a strength of about 9,000 men, but of this number a considerable proportion, including drummers, musicians, and men borne for duty, but not available for fatigue, should be deducted. The Second Division has one brigade detached at Prince George Court-House, which furnishes a picket detail of about 200 men, and is engaged at the same time in constructing earth-works at that place. The details made from the brigade are not included in the statements given on the previous page. The details from the Second Division have been proportionally heavy compared with those from the First Division, in order to give the greater number of recruits in the latter division an opportunity for discipline and instruction. The practical working of the matter is that the men are on duty every day, so that the inspectors report that they cannot make the ordinary monthly inspection in the Second Division. In the First Division there is no adequate opportunity for drilling the recruits, a matter of vital importance. The men of both divisions have no time to keep their arms in proper order, or to pay the proper attention to the police of camp or the cleanliness of clothing or persons. The men have, in fact, become day laborers, and suffer in their proper character as soldiers. The effect on the morale of the troops I believe to be unfortunate.

The details for fatigue coming directly from the office of the chief engineer, or (as is usually the case) from some officer delegated by him, the commanding general may not be aware of the extent of labor performed by the corps. It has constructed a large proportion of the work about Petersburg, commencing with the rifle-pits to the right and left of the Hare house. After the corps was withdrawn from this line it constructed several lines on the left of the plank road, besides furnishing large details to aid General Warren in constructing redoubts along the plank road. After moving to the Deserted House the corps furnished a division daily for fatigue to aid in constructing the covered ways and field works on the front line, and built a large proportion of the line from the Chieves house to the Norfolk railroad. After its return from the first expedition to Deep Bottom it was again called on for these heavy details, and on its return from the second movement to Deep Bottom was engaged in heavy fatigue duties until the battle of Reams' Station. Since then it has built the entire line from the left of the plank road to the Norfolk road and part of the line on the right, felling a great extent of timber along the whole line of the Blackwater Swamp. The men have moved from place to place, building works and constructing lines they never occupy, and the result is that they have to a certain extent the habits of laborers, and are more familiar with the shovel than the musket. The very small number of officers present has rendered the discipline of these troops almost impossible.

The object in laying this communication before the commanding general is not to find fault at the labor done, the importance of which is apparent, but to respectfully inquire whether other troops have not enjoyed a better opportunity of discipline and instruction.

I have deferred representing this matter, but my commanders are pressing upon me daily the fact that their men are worn out, not so much on account of the severity of the labor, but because of the continuous nature of it and the lack of any opportunity for rest or providing for the comfort of the men.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY:

I am going out, by General Hancock's order, to see what arrangement to make about relieving your line. Will you please send a staff officer to meet me at the ruins of the Davis house at 3 o'clock to ride over the line and give me information as to the position of troops, &c.? I will have our chief of artillery with me.

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY:

I have directed General Miles and Colonel Smyth to commence relieving your line at dark. General Miles will occupy from Battery 13 to the right and Colonel Smyth from Battery 13 to the Norfolk railroad. The chief of artillery has also been directed to commence relieving your artillery at dark. I presume he has seen Colonel Jackson by this time. If he has not, I will direct him to confer with him. He is now on the line. I have directed my commanders not to relieve your picket-line to-night, as I want to try to get a chance to look around in the morning and see where they are. Colonel Smyth has sent officers to arrange with General Terry and General Miles has seen General Foster. Please notify your commanders what time I begin.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

My chief of artillery missed Colonel Morgan. If your chief could report here mine would explain the entire line to him in relieving the batteries. My cavalry escort picket the river-bank. It will require about fifty cavalry to relieve them, although infantry would be as well.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
[*September*] *24, 1864—4.40 p. m.*

Major-General BIRNEY:

Colonel Morgan has not returned and I do not think [he will] be back before dark. If you do not see him before that time it would be better to send your chief of artillery here, as I will have use for Colonel Morgan for a few hours after he returns in issuing the necessary orders for the change, and it would delay matters if he were absent so long as it would take for him to go to your headquarters and return.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Maj. Gen. D. B. BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

My chief of artillery has not returned from the line. I suppose he has seen Colonel Jackson. If he has not artillery enough to relieve all your batteries I suppose you will permit those not relieved to remain until to-morrow evening, when I can complete the arrangement by getting some pieces from General Hunt and taking one battery from Mott's line. If I can find my chief of artillery in time I hope to get through to-night.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I will make any arrangement that you desire for the night.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 35. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

In accordance with instructions received from headquarters of the army, the First and Second Divisions will relieve the Tenth Army Corps in the line of intrenchments, beginning as soon after dark as practicable.

The Second Division, Colonel Smyth commanding, will relieve the line from the Norfolk railroad to Battery 13, as shown to Colonel Smyth's staff officers this afternoon by Colonel Morgan, chief of staff. Colonel Smyth will occupy Fort Morton with 800 men.

The First Division, General Miles commanding, will relieve the Tenth Corps line from Battery 13 to the right, garrisoning the inclosed works as follows: Fort Haskell, 250 men; Fort Stedman, 300 men; Fort McGilvery, 300 men.

The rifle-pits connecting these works and batteries on the line will for the present be occupied as they now are. The picket-line will not be relieved to-night. Any troops remaining in reserve after these dispositions are made will be placed under cover, under supporting distance of the line. Commandants of artillery will relieve as many of the light batteries belonging to the Tenth Corps now on the line as he is able to relieve with artillery at his disposal, conferring with the chief of artillery Tenth Corps for this purpose. Commanders of divisions and Artillery Brigade will set forth the disposition in detail in the morning report of the 25th. Corps headquarters will be moved to the Deserted House to-morrow.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

Capt. JOHN N. CRAIG,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Artillery Hdqrs., Army of the Potomac:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report no change in the enemy's lines in my front observed or reported during the past twenty-four hours. In compliance with the order of Major-General Meade a salute of 100 shotted guns was fired at daylight from the batteries on the Second Corps front, apparently doing some damage to the enemy's works, but eliciting no reply.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. M. EDGELL,
Captain, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIG., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

The commanding officers of the following-named batteries will have their commands harnessed and hitched in readiness to move at once: F, First Pennsylvania Artillery; K, Fourth U. S. Artillery; A and B, First Rhode Island Artillery; Twelfth New York Independent Battery; G, First New York Artillery; C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery; First New Hampshire Battery; Tenth Massachusetts Battery.

By command of Capt. F. M. Edgell:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

Col. T. A. SMYTH,
Commanding Second Division:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that you withdraw your brigade of infantry and batteries of artillery on the Norfolk road and at Prince George Court-House. You can withdraw your pickets any time during the day.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. BINGHAM,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

Capt. J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Division:

CAPTAIN: In compliance with circular from division headquarters I have the honor to report the following disposition of troops under my command for garrison in Forts Meikel, Rice, and Sedgwick: Fort Meikel, 100 men, from Eighty-sixth New York Volunteers, under the special command of Capt. H. G. Harrower. Fort Rice, 165 men, from the same regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Lansing's command, extending over the

two forts, but in case of attack especially on Fort Rice. Fort Sedgwick, Seventeenth Maine Volunteers, First Maine Heavy Artillery, One hundred and tenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, in all 819 officers and men under command of Lieut. Col. C. B. Merrill, Seventeenth Maine Volunteers, the ranking officer. I beg, respectfully, to remark that those 819 officers and men cannot be placed in the fort for the reason there is no possible room there for them. The work on the left of the plank road having no artillery can contain at the most 300 men. Fort Sedgwick proper (Fort Hell) is filled up by the artillerymen, magazines, caissons, save on the left, but this part of the work will be in no way too much for the six pieces of artillery (four 4½-inch Rodmans, and two siege howitzers) to be located there to complete its armament. For these reasons the garrison has so many outside along the breast-works which inclose the batteries in the rear, and I respectfully submit that in order to facilitate the defense and make it more effective the Battery 21, included in the works with which it connects directly between a double line of breast-works, affording a very good *place d'armes* to be easily defended and large enough to contain a small regiment, the Battery 21 being inclosed and supporting well Fort Sedgwick on the right. I have also to report that the signs nailed this morning are not properly fixed and ought to be changed to prevent confusion. The work on the left of the plank road wears the sign of Fort Sedgwick, of which it is but an annex. Fort Sedgwick as Battery 21. Battery 21 wears the number 20 and Battery 20, where the Fourth Maine Battery is located (four guns), is ignored altogether. In the circular this battery is mentioned by mistake as unoccupied or without guns. In Fort Rice temporary embrasures made with gabions and sand-bags, for the protection of the men manning two field pieces, have been taken off the parapet, as I understand, by order of General Hunt, chief of artillery. I respectfully submit that it makes the use of these two pieces extremely perilous. Being now on high platforms in barbette, the men are fully exposed to the firing of the enemy's sharpshooters at a place where no one can show his head with impunity for five minutes. It is probable that this condition of things was not reported to General Hunt, and respectfully submit that his attention be called to this matter, as the two pieces alluded to are the only ones bearing in front against the enemy's works, and it is important that they should be kept as available as possible.

Respectfully submitted.

R. DE TROBRIAND,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in my front yesterday and during the night, nothing unusual transpiring. A deserter came in this morning. He belongs to Seventh North Carolina; has been in service two years; was in Reams' Station fight; says no infantry are on plank road; Anderson's brigade was, but has been withdrawn.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
Camp at Warren Station, Va., September 24, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Owing to the depleted numbers of this command I would respectfully recommend that the division be consolidated into one brigade. The organization as it now exists consists of three brigades: The First Brigade—Twenty-first Pennsylvania Dismounted Cavalry, 608 muskets; the Second Brigade—Thirty-second Massachusetts, Ninety-first and One hundred and fifty-fifth Pennsylvania, in all 848 muskets; the Third Brigade—One hundred and eighteenth Pennsylvania, First Michigan, Twentieth Maine, Sixteenth Michigan, and four battalions, as follows: Eighty-third Pennsylvania, Forty-fourth New York, Fourth Michigan, and Eighteenth Massachusetts, numbering in all 1,050 muskets. It will be seen that this gives only 2,506 muskets. The Twenty-second Massachusetts belongs to the division, but has been detached and is on duty at City Point, having only 136 muskets. This regiment goes out of service on the 8th of October, and will probably not leave over 30 muskets. The battalions could be transferred to regiments. The commanding officer of the corps has already recommended the transfer of the Forty-fourth New York. The officers of the battalions not required or not wishing to remain in service could be honorably discharged. Should the commanding general give this recommendation a favorable consideration he will at once see that the consolidation must give the brigade some hundreds of additional men for musket duty, by decreasing the number of extra daily and detached duty men. The organization as it now exists is not believed to be in keeping with the interests of the service. From having the name of division with three brigades its details are very heavy. For instance, the picket-line is at the present time over four miles, requiring 900 men, with proper complement of officers, and there has not been a day since on this line that the detail has been less than from 500 to 700.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

Lieut. Col. FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I would again urge upon the attention of the proper authorities the want of brigade commanders, and ask that Lieut. Col. William A. Throop, First Michigan Volunteers, be brevetted a brigadier. Colonel Throop has had more experience than any field officer in this command, and I don't think has his superior as a drill officer and disciplinarian in the service, and I trust his application may meet with early attention, and Colonel Throop assigned according to his brevet rank.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 132. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *Warren's Station, Va., September 24, 1864.*

Col. H. G. Sickel, One hundred and ninety-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, having reported with his regiment in compliance with orders from headquarters Fifth Army Corps, is assigned to the First Brigade.

By command of Brigadier-General Griffin:

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report nothing unusual on my lines during the past twenty-four hours. Detached rifle-pits and defenses are being constructed along my rear line of pickets.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

Col. T. S. BOWERS:

Will you please furnish me with a copy of any order or telegram extending the leave of Major-General Burnside and staff? I received from Major-General Burnside a copy of telegram from Lieutenant-General Grant to Major-General Burnside on this subject under date of September 1, but it has either been destroyed or mislaid.

JNO. G. PARKE.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 24, 1864.*

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

The telegram from General Grant to General Burnside referred to in your dispatch of to-day reads as follows:

CITY POINT, VA., *September 1, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Providence, R. I.:

Await orders where you are. Your staff may remain with you.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

No subsequent orders have been given to General Burnside.

GEO. K. LEET,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 183. } HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS, *September 24, 1864.*

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5. In pursuance of orders from headquarters Army of the Potomac, it is hereby directed that a garrison of 150 be placed in Fort Howard

by Brigadier-General Hartranft, commanding First Division. This garrison will be considered as permanent and will not be moved unless specially directed by virtue of authority from headquarters Army of the Potomac. For the present it is not necessary that the camp or quarters of the men be inside the work, but may be pitched in its immediate vicinity.

By command of Maj. Gen. John G. Parke:

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to forward herewith a sketch* of the picket-line of the Second Division Cavalry. West of General Warren's front, on the Vaughan road, is a reserve of 120 men, with vedettes on the road in front of the infantry line. On the railroad south of General Warren's position a reserve (150 men) with vedettes covering the Wyatt road and the roads to Reams' Station and Wood's Shop. On the plank road one regiment (250 men) covering the road to Reams' Station and the plank road. On the road leading from McCann's to Lee's Mill one regiment (250 men) picketing to the plank road and to Davenport Church.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

I have your communication of to-day's date respecting the pickets from the Weldon railroad to Davenport Church. As this appears to be intended for the report asked for in my dispatch of 22d instant to General Davies, I think there must be some misapprehension of that dispatch. It called for a complete rearrangement of the calvary picket-line from the plank road to the James River. The force picketing from Davenport Church to the James River was considered to be entirely inadequate to that duty. The dispatches to General Davies previous to that of 2.30 p. m. of the 22d will show what had been intended.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 24, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

The two brigades and two batteries of the Second Corps now at Prince George Court-House and on the Norfolk railroad will be withdrawn to-day.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

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*Not found.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

Col. C. H. SMITH,
Commanding Second Brigade, Second Division Cavalry:

COLONEL: You will please prepare (by getting three days' rations and two of forage) a sufficient force to take up and picket to Two Bridges. The two brigades infantry and the two batteries now at Prince George Court-House will be withdrawn to-day. Just have this force in readiness to go on picket upon the return of the general, who is now absent at General Kautz's headquarters. Other orders will be issued you. Do not saddle, but hold in readiness to do so before receipt of further orders.

Very respectfully,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

Col. C. H. SMITH,
Commanding Second Brigade, Second Division Cavalry:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that to-morrow morning by daylight you will cause a picket force of 300 men to take position south of and near McCann's house on railroad (Norfolk) to take up picket-line between your present left (Davenport Church) and Two Bridges, relieving all of General Kautz's pickets on that line; your left will then be at Two Bridges. You will keep a strong reserve on railroad. There are two main roads in the vicinity of the Norfolk railroad. This picket force need not go out until morning 25th instant.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Please report as soon as you have established the extension of your line.

H. C. W.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 24, 1864. (Received 12.45 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

The Second Corps will relieve the Tenth from the trenches to-night. Instruct General Birney to move his corps in rear of its present position when relieved, out of sight of the enemy.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 24, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding, &c., City Point, Va.:

The telegram in relation to the Second Corps received and proper orders forwarded.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 24, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

During your absence, and when an attack was anticipated, at the suggestion of General Ord, I directed General Meade to hold himself responsible for all of the line south of the Appomattox, and that all troops occupying such line obey his orders. It was under these circumstances that General Meade directed General Birney to send prisoners and deserters to his provost-marshal. The Second Corps relieving the Tenth to-night will make it unnecessary either to repeal or withdraw the order. All prisoners and deserters taken by either army, however, should be sent to the provost-marshal-general at City Point as soon as questioned. I suppose they have been so disposed of heretofore.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
September 24, 1864.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE A. KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at tower on James River reports "situation unchanged from yesterday." The signal officer at Spring Hill reports that nothing new has occurred to-day along the enemy's lines. Their working parties have been employed in strengthening their works during the day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864. (Received 9.25 a. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing of interest on my line. The large 7-inch Brooke gun has been moved from its position. The salute elicited little or no response. The contrabands sent up on yesterday reported the moving of artillery (heavy guns) on trucks to South Side Railroad.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 24, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

Please inform me upon what authority prisoners of war and deserters from the enemy sent to you are forwarded other than to the provost-marshal at these headquarters, as I understand they are. In future will you see that all such persons are forwarded at once to these headquarters?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to inform you, for the information of Major-General Meade, that I am ordered by General Butler to forward prisoners of war and deserters to his headquarters; also, asking me by what authority I had stopped doing so. I have answered by an order from General Meade, and that hereafter I will send those persons to his headquarters.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 24, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

The Second Corps will relieve you to-night. You will mass your corps in the rear of its present position, when relieved, out of sight of the enemy.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 24, 1864—2.10 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

I am instructed to inform you that you will be relieved to-night from the position your corps holds by Major-General Hancock, commanding Second Corps. Upon being relieved you will mass your troops well in rear of the position they now hold, and out of sight of the enemy. You will receive instructions as to your subsequent movements from Major-General Butler, commanding department, &c.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

Commanding officers will hold their commands ready to be relieved to-night by the Second Corps. Staff officers of division and independent brigades will be sent to these headquarters to ascertain the place where the troops will be massed upon being relieved. The chief of artillery will at once see General Hunt as to the relief of the artillery during the night.

By order of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, before Petersburg, Va., September 24, 1864.

In being relieved to-night the garrisons in the forts will be relieved with rest of the troops. The exchange will be managed quietly, and

division officers of the day will be at division headquarters ready to give all information to the officers of the Second Corps. The commanding officer of engineers will report for orders to these headquarters and camp in rear of the corps.

By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 128. } *Before Petersburg, Va., September 24, 1864.*

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III. Hereafter, whenever marching orders are received by this command, knapsacks of the men will be immediately inspected by the regimental commanders, and all superfluous articles, which by their weight would tend to break down the men upon the march, will be immediately thrown out. Any man picking up articles so rejected without the consent of his regimental commander will be tried by general court-martial.

IV. In all movements of this command the cooking utensils of the companies will be carried in the wagons, for each of which one man will be detailed as guard. All other enlisted men reported by their regiments as for duty, or upon special duty, will march in the ranks of their companies.

V. The brigade commanders are charged with the strict enforcement of the provisions of this order.

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IX. Col. F. B. Pond, Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, having been relieved from command of the Third Division of this corps, will resume command of the First Brigade of this division. In relieving Colonel Voris, Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, from the command of the First Brigade, the brevet major-general commanding desires to express his thanks for the able manner in which that officer has commanded the brigade while under his charge.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 24, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that there have been no changes in the disposition of the troops of my command during the past twenty-four hours. The picket-posts on the Appomattox have been moved near the river-bank, and measures taken to prevent any persons passing through the lines without the knowledge of the guard. The usual fatigue details of 600 men were engaged on the various works in progress on my line. Three men deserted from the Forty-eighth New York Volunteers during the night.

Respectfully, yours,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General FOSTER,
Commanding Second Division:

The major-general commanding directs that you send fifty men of your command immediately to relieve the men of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, doing picket duty on your right; the men to remain until relieved by those of the Second Corps.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 125. } HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., September 24, 1864.

The provisions of General Orders, No. 111, from these headquarters, are so far modified as to permit officers on picket duty and officers of the day to allow the exchange of papers between the pickets, with a view of encouraging desertions from the enemy. This privilege must be exercised without any relaxation in the strict performance of picket-duty.

By command of Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord:

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 24, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The report alluded to in the dispatch* received from the lieutenant-general no doubt has its foundation in a change made day before yesterday under the direction of the cavalry commander. I did not have men sufficient to hold out to Cocke's Mill, consequently the telegraph road was not covered, and therefore the pickets on the road leading from Rollins' to Sycamore Church were withdrawn and placed on the telegraph road, so as to watch all the roads on my left. This was done at the suggestion of General Davies, who was here in person. There is no information of any force except scouts of the enemy anywhere in my front. I have sent out to Colonel Spear to ascertain what foundation there is for the report, but I feel confident that nothing unusual has occurred. General Gregg was here this afternoon, and has arranged to strengthen my line by relieving a portion of it with a regiment from his division. While I cannot be expected to hold my line against any force, I can promise to furnish the earliest intelligence of an advancing force.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

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*See Grant to Meade, beginning—The infantry commander, &c., p. 988.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 24, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: The picket reports represent everything as quiet along the line. Sergeant Smith, Company M [F], Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, was killed last night by one of his own pickets whilst going the rounds. I have withdrawn the pickets from Sycamore Church and placed them on the telegraph road, so as to continue the line from Mount Sinai Church nearly north. I had not men enough to hold down to Cocke's Mill. The usual amount of picket-shooting at scouts and deserters continues.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, September 24, 1864.

Captain THORNTON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General to General Shepley:

By the authority of the Secretary of War you are authorized to recruit a regiment from the rebel prisoners at Point Lookout. A letter of instructions will be sent you by mail.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., September 24, 1864.

Lieut. GILBERT E. OVERTON,
Adjutant Twelfth New York Cavalry:

LIEUTENANT: General Harland directs me to call your attention to the following extract from a letter recently received at these headquarters from Brigadier-General Baker, commanding Confederate forces at Goldsborough:

> It is reported to me by my scouts on the lower Trent road, below Kinston, that on the 10th instant Lieutenant Overton, adjutant Twelfth New York Cavalry, U. S. Army, in charge of a flag of truce, on his return to your lines carried with him three negroes picked up on the road. In addition to this it is reported to me that the same detachment under flag of truce stopped at the house of Mr. Noble, a citizen, took possession of his house for their own use, and used an amount of forage for their horses without payment for the same.

General Harland requests that you will forward to these headquarters a full statement of the facts in these cases with as little delay as possible.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
[G. F. WARD, JR.,]
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, *September 25, 1864—3.10 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

It is ascertained that the men returned from City Point were not sent from Alexandria, but from New York, direct. The error resulted from the neglect of the officers of General Sheridan's command to make returns to the Adjutant-General's Office.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 25, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

In accordance with your verbal order given yesterday the Tenth Army Corps was last night relieved by the two divisions of the Second Corps hitherto posted in the rear or held in reserve. As this change has given to the Second Corps, with an effective strength of less than 15,000 men, a line of over five miles to hold, I have deemed it proper to order the following changes of position: The Second Corps to hold the line from the Appomattox to Fort Crawford on the Jerusalem plank road; the Ninth Corps to hold with two divisions from Fort Crawford to include Fort Howard, such portion of these two divisions as may not be required on this line to be held in reserve in the rear; the third division of the Ninth Corps to be held near the Avery house as a reserve to the Second Corps; the Fifth Corps to hold from Fort Howard round to the Gurley house; the present picket of the Fifth Corps to the rear to be maintained, they now extending to a line south from the Gurley house; from this point the cavalry to watch and picket the rear over to the James; garrisons and artillery to be assigned to the inclosed works on the front line; the rest of the troops to be held ready for withdrawal and movement elsewhere.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 25, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Has Gregg returned yet? I will have to send a cavalry commander to Sherman, and think of sending Gregg. At present, and to this time, there has not been an officer with the cavalry in the West who it was safe to trust, without infantry to guard them from danger. The rebels are equally bad off. With either Gregg, Torbert, or Wilson in command of Sherman's cavalry, they could travel over that Western country with impunity.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 25, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Gregg has returned. In reference to your proposition to send him West, I have to call your attention to the fact that there is no other general officer of cavalry with this army but General Davies, one

of the youngest and most recently promoted; whereas with General Sheridan's army are Torbert, Averell, Merritt, Custer, Devin, Chapman, and McIntosh.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 25, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The following report, just received, is forwarded for your information.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 25, 1864—11 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 10.30 a column of infantry, numbering about 3,000, appeared in vicinity of large fort on Weldon railroad, apparently coming from woods west of railroad and southward from large fort, and disappeared on road running west from fort; were twenty minutes in passing.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

CITY POINT, *September 25, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Please send an ambulance to the railroad station for Governor Seward, Mr. Washburne, and General Grant, who leave here for your headquarters in a few minutes.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

E. S. PARKER,
Secretary.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 25, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Thursday will be the day upon which efforts will be made in the direction indicated in our conversation yesterday. I want a brigade of cavalry, well commanded, to report to General Butler. I think it will be well to start the brigade you select on a scout to-morrow morning to push out east, keeping about the route followed by Hampton when on his cattle raid; farther out if they can, and come into the James River, and up to City Point, crossing over to Bermuda Hundred after night. They should ride slowly and preserve their horses, except where they may come upon the enemy. It is not necessary that the cavalry commander should know the object of his reporting to General Butler, or even that he is to report to him until his arrival at City Point.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 25, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I will send Kautz with his division—about equal to one of Gregg's brigades. His command is a good one, and as he belongs to Butler's army it would seem proper to send him. What time do you desire him to be at City Point, and is it necessary he should go to that place, as this is somewhat out of his way? He might be directed to return to Prince George Court-House, and from thence sent over to General Butler.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *September 25, 1864.*

General MEADE:

Sending Kautz to Butler it will not be necessary he should make a scout around. He can be relieved by Gregg and allowed to fall back within our lines, where he is, and report to General Butler for orders. If he is relieved on Tuesday it will be early enough.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *September 25, 1864—7 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

I have learned from a source independent of the provost-marshal's information that the enemy are preparing to evacuate Petersburg. In all probability it will be impossible to discover any such move in time to benefit by it, but I advise you that you may keep a lookout.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 25, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I will keep a sharp lookout through pickets and signal officers for any movements indicating what you state in your dispatch.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
September 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Our men met one of our agents last night, who left Richmond yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock. In the early part of the afternoon the second fight of Early was known of in Richmond, and was talked of in and about the Spotswood House. It was understood that Early had been badly whipped. Two regiments of infantry had been sent from Petersburg, and one of the city battalions from Richmond to

Lynchburg, which comprises all of the movements of troops that our agent could ascertain had taken place. Eight guns have been sent to Chaffin's farm to be put in position, and there were signs all day long of great uneasiness in the city; so when the firing yesterday morning was distinctly heard in Richmond, one of the city battalions was immediately ordered out and sent down to Chaffin's farm. Hampton's cavalry still remains on New Market Hill, but our agent said it was not expected to continue there. He gave no reason for the statement.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

File of Richmond papers of yesterday forwarded herewith.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
September 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from the Fourteenth Tennessee Regiment, Archer's brigade, Heth's division, have just been forwarded. They came into the lines of the Second Cavalry Division this a. m. They state that two brigades of Heth's division are on the extreme right of the enemy's line, Archer's and Kirkland's; the other two brigades of the division lie between Mahone's division and Beauregard; are extending their lines still farther to the right, and in the direction of the South Side Railroad. Butler's division of cavalry connects with the infantry on the right, Young's brigade adjoining Archer's brigade. Are not aware of any re-enforcements arriving, or any troops sent away. Deserters from the Mississippi and Alabama brigades, of Mahone's division, forwarded this a. m. They locate Mahone's division as formerly reported; have no knowledge of any other part of the line. Four of W. H. F. Lee's scouts were captured near Sycamore Church last night; found lurking within our lines. They freely confess that they came in for information, and have been in sundry times before. They are regularly detailed scouts, and are attached to General Lee's headquarters, belonging to the Ninth Virginia Cavalry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The lookout at the plank road station reports at 8.30 a. m.:

All quiet. No working parties visible, and no change in the camps of the enemy seen from this station.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 25, 1864—9 a. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

All quiet this a. m. An excellent view can be obtained this morning.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

PLANK ROAD STATION,
September 25, 1864.

Major FISHER:

No indications of movements or change within any part of enemy's lines visible from station. Working parties are busy on works left of large fort and in vicinity of lead-works; also a party is working on the flat in rear of Gregory's Chimneys, and is in range of our batteries.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

PLANK ROAD STATION,
September 25, 1864.

Major FISHER:

All quiet and no visible change in enemy's camps or lines. Four hundred and fifty infantry have just passed the left from vicinity of lead-works; probably pickets.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 25, 1864—3 p. m.

Major FISHER:

The enemy's infantry camps to our right of the city have disappeared.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 25, 1864.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

The camps mentioned were those to our right and beyond the city, the ones spoken of on the station this morning. They were west of the city and distant about two miles. I think that about one brigade has moved. Don't know which way they went, but think in the direction of Richmond depot, as I can see the road in the other direction.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 25, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

All quiet since the move mentioned in my dispatch. The following have been intercepted:

9.30 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

All quiet this a. m. Gun-boat above pontoon.

S.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

9.45 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Twelve wagons passed Jordan's house going toward City Point and ten on road rear of Battery 5 going toward the front in Prince George.

J. Q. E.,
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

10.30 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One regiment of cavalry passed open space to our left of Cobb's going toward Bermuda Hundred. One regiment of cavalry drilling in open space. Nine wagons passed open space going toward Bermuda Hundred.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

11.30 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One regiment of infantry came into open space rear of Battery 5, halted awhile, and now have commenced drilling. Eleven wagons passed rear of Battery 5 going to the front.

J. Q. E.,
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

2.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One regiment of cavalry passed Point of Rocks going toward Bermuda Hundred. Ten wagons passed open space going toward our front in Chesterfield. About thirty head of cattle grazing on Gilliam's farm.

S.
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A camp of the enemy heretofore visible about a mile and a half west of Petersburg disappeared about noon to-day. A column of about 1,000 infantry came into the city at or a little after sundown and moved toward their intrenchments east of the city. They came from the direction of the lead-works or vicinity. The camps behind Cemetery Hill have visibly decreased within the past two days. Late

in the evening about 450 infantry, probably pickets, passed to the left from the vicinity of the lead-works. No visible change in enemy's camps along the lines south of the city.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 25, 1864—12 m.

1. Major-General Parke will at once relieve the troops of the Second Corps garrisoning Fort Alexander Hays and the rifle-pits between Fort Alexander Hays and Fort Davis. He will send one division of his corps, either the First or Second Division, to the vicinity of the Avery house to be held in reserve for the line between the plank road and the Appomattox. His Third Division will be used in the rifle-pits between Fort Davis and Fort Howard, and, if necessary, part of the remaining division of the corps will be placed in them also. The remainder, besides garrisoning Fort Alexander Hays and Fort Howard will be held in reserve in rear for the line between the plank road and the Weldon railroad. The pickets of the Ninth Corps in advance of the rear line of intrenchments will be withdrawn upon the establishment of cavalry pickets covering the same line. General Parke will withdraw all his troops from the rear line and all in the intrenchments west of Fort Howard upon being relieved in the latter and at Fort Davison by General Warren.

2. Major-General Warren will send a garrison to Fort Davison and look out for the rear line in that vicinity. He will also relieve the Ninth Corps in the rifle-pits from his right to Fort Howard.

3. Major-General Hancock will dispose of his troops relieved by General Parke in the manner deemed by him best. In any emergency requiring support he will call on the commander of the division of the Ninth Corps in reserve near the Avery house.

4. General Gregg will extend his picket-line from Gary's Church to the westward and connect with the left of General Warren's pickets south of Gurley house. He will inform General Parke as soon as this is done.

5. Corps commanders will see that the intrenchments of the rear line opposite the front line held by them are kept in good order and are completed, using the troops in reserve for that purpose.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(To corps commanders and General Gregg, commanding cavalry.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864—9 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The First and Second Divisions of my corps relieved the Tenth Corps last night. The Tenth Corps artillery was also relieved. A special report will be made on the subject as soon as I receive the reports of division commanders.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 25, 1864. (Sent 11.40 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Have you changed your headquarters; if so, where are they now established?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

My headquarters are at the Deserted House.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Williams.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 25, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The signal officer on the plank road reports that at 10.30 a. m. a body of infantry, estimated at 3,000, came out of the woods near the advance works on the Weldon railroad, and moved westward on the road running in that direction.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

(Same to General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 25, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Information received at these headquarters renders it necessary that the greatest vigilance should be observed by the pickets in close contact with the enemy, and that any indications of movement on their part should be promptly reported to these headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Generals Warren and Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I desire, if possible, that the regiment of mine on guard at Cedar Level be relieved. I have not men enough to relieve General Birney's line properly under any circumstances, but I should have all the men possible.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 25, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Army Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that you will receive orders during the day by which the length of the line you have to defend will be diminished, and thus render unnecessary the relief of the regiment as applied for in your telegram of this date just received.

S. F. BARSTOW,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

The following modifications of the order of yesterday, with reference to the occupation of the line of intrenchments, will be carried into effect to-night:

On being relieved from the line from Fort Davis to and including Fort Alexander Hays, General Mott, commanding Third Division, will relieve the left of the Second Division from the Norfolk railroad (Battery 18) to Fort Morton. Colonel Smyth, commanding Second Division, will relieve the left of the First Division from Battery 13 to Fort Stedman, garrisoning Forts Morton and Haskell with as many troops as they will profitably hold, and placing about 50 men in each of Batteries 11, 12, 13, and 14. For the present the front line of rifle-pits will be held as now. It is expected, however, that more of the troops will be shortly called into the new line between Forts Stedman and Haskell. Brigadier-General Miles, commanding First Division, will occupy Fort Stedman (of which Battery 10 will be considered a part) and Fort McGilvery, with as many men as they will profitably hold, and will place about 100 men in the lunette, partially inclosed, known as Battery No. 9, on the City Point railroad. The rifle-pits connecting need not be manned by a full line of battle—one man to the yard is considered ample. The reserves of the three divisions will be placed at such points opposite these lines as division commanders may select, provided they are within easy supporting distance. It should be understood that the safety of the line depends upon the vigilance of the pickets and upon holding the inclosed works. The armaments, garrisons, and commanders of these works are to be permanent, and will be changed only under directions from headquarters of the army. As soon as the commanders are selected and garrisons designated lists of the same will be sent to these headquarters. The greatest vigilance must be exacted of those troops on the line; with the exception of the garrisons to the redoubts, they may be relieved at discretion of division commanders.

The light artillery of the line will be arranged to-night, under the direction of the chief of artillery, as follows:

Fort Davis, eight guns; Fort Sedgwick, eight guns; Battery 21, four guns; Fort Rice, six guns; Battery 19, two guns; Battery 18, one gun; Fort Morton, four guns; Battery 14, four guns; Battery 13, four guns; Fort Haskell, six guns; Battery 11, two guns; Fort Stedman, six guns; Battery 10, two guns; Battery 9, four guns; Fort McGilvery, six guns; Battery No. 6, two guns.

The field guns will not be changed or withdrawn, except under orders through or from these headquarters, and the chief of artillery will communicate this order to battery commanders.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Capt. J. N. CRAIG,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Artillery Hdqrs., Army of the Potomac:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report no change in the enemy's lines in my front observed or reported during the past twenty-four hours. In compliance with orders, all the available batteries of this brigade were placed in position during last night, relieving batteries of the Tenth Corps as follows: Ames' (G), First New York, relieved Dow's in Fort Morton; Sleeper's, Tenth Massachusetts, relieved Follett's in Battery 14; Edgell's, First New Hampshire, relieved Sawyer in Battery 13; Beck's (C and I), Fifth United States, relieved Langdon's in Fort Haskell; Ricketts' (F), First Pennsylvania, relieved Clinton's in Batteries 10 and 11; Brown's (B), First Rhode Island, relieved Warren's in Fort Stedman; McKnight's, Twelfth New York, relieved Riggs' in Batteries 6 and 8; Roder's (K), Fourth United States, relieved Lee's in Fort McGilvery.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. M. EDGELL,
Captain, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Captain EDGELL,
Commanding Artillery Brigade:

CAPTAIN: The major-general commanding the corps directs me to inform you that Woerner's battery has been removed from Fort Alexander Hays and that it had better be put in No. 6.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. BINGHAM,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Capt. CHRISTIAN WOERNER,
Commanding Third New Jersey Battery:

CAPTAIN: The captain commanding directs me to inform you that if you have been removed from Fort Hays he desires you to at once move your battery to the Avery house, halt it, and report in person at these headquarters. The orderly will guide you to both places.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Capt. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that Forts McGilvery and Stedman are not completed, and request that an engineer officer may be detailed to superintend their completion.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. N. A. MILES,
Commanding First Division, Second Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you will at dark or night-fall relieve the pickets and vedettes of the Tenth Corps now in your front. Lieutenant-Colonel Wilson, Eighty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, commanding First Brigade, First Division, has been ordered to report as corps officer of the day September 25.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. H. BINGHAM,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Col. T. A. Smyth, Second Division.)

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Col. J. C. LYNCH,
Commanding First Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that at dark or night-fall you will relieve all the pickets and vedettes of the Tenth Corps in front of your brigade. He also directs that you send out pickets at night in those places where the Tenth Corps were accustomed to do the same, namely, such places as cannot be picketed during the day, but are sent out at night to return in the morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Colonels McGee and Glenny.)

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Col. J. C. LYNCH,
Commanding First Brigade:

COLONEL. The brigadier-general commanding directs you to be certain that the line to your right and rear is well watched and picketed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM GLENNY,
Commanding Fourth Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs me to say that your brigade will be relieved to-night by part of the Second Division of this corps, and that upon being so relieved you will move your command to the rear of the First Brigade. You will relieve the pickets of the Tenth Corps as directed in communication of this p. m. The pickets thus posted by you will be relieved by the Second Division after it has taken your present position, and you are requested to inform the officer relieving you of their position and number.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Lieut. Col. JAMES E. MCGEE,
Commanding Consolidated Brigade:

COLONEL: I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to say that your brigade will be relieved in its present position by the Fourth Brigade of this division. He directs that upon being relieved you will move to the rear of the First Brigade. A staff officer from these headquarters will show the position.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 69. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 2D ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

The undersigned resumes command of the division.
JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 132. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 2D ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

* * * * * * * *

2. Brig. Gen. T. W. Egan, U. S. Volunteers, having reported in accordance with Special Orders, No. 244, headquarters Second Army Corps, is hereby assigned to the command of the First Brigade.

By order of Major-General Gibbon, commanding division:
A. HENRY EMBLER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that when the troops of General Parke's command relieve your line, as specified in the inclosed

circular* from headquarters Army of the Potomac, you will mass or dispose of your troops in the woods in rear of General Miles' old headquarters until you receive orders as to their final disposition.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[H. H. BINGHAM,]

Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General PIERCE,
Commanding Brigade:

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding directs that when the troops of General Parke relieve your line, as specified in the inclosed circular* from headquarters Army of the Potomac, you will mass or dispose of your troops in the woods in the rear of General Miles' old headquarters until you receive orders as to their final disposition. Lieutenant Lockwood, aide-de-camp, will designate the place for your brigade.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. LOCKWOOD,

Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Col. ROBERT MCALLISTER,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding the division directs that, as soon as relieved by the Ninth Corps, you will move your command to the left of the Second Division, to relieve Colonel Smyth's line from the Norfolk railroad to Fort Morton, connecting with General De Trobriand at the Norfolk railroad. You will report to these headquarters when relieved and when your movement is completed. It is not deemed necessary to put your command in line of battle, but place it in single rank a little apart. The order to furnish a detail of 400 men to-morrow morning from your command is revoked, as General Pierce will furnish the same.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. P. FINKELMEIER,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance transpired in my front yesterday or during the night. The One hundred and ninety-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Colonel Sickel, reported last night.

*See p. 1014.

and is assigned to General Griffin. One hundred and twenty-seven recruits arrived yesterday—eighty-one for Twentieth Maine and forty-six for the Thirty-second Massachusetts.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 239. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

I. Brigadier-General Baxter will send a regiment about 200 strong to garrison Fort Davison, at the Gurley house.

II. Brigadier-General Ayres will extend his division along the breast-works to the right as far as he can, relieving the troops of the Ninth Corps.

III. Colonel Wainwright, chief of artillery, will put a battery in Battery No. 26, between Fort Wadsworth and Fort Howard.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General AYRES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding has directed General Crawford to occupy the breast-works to your right. You will, therefore, not be required to move your troops.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Brigade commanders will hold their commands in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

By command of Brigadier-General Ayres:

C. E. LA MOTTE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing unusual occurred on any portion of my line during the past twenty-four hours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Circular of this date received at 2.30 p. m.* The troops are now moving to take up the position indicated. The Jones house being more central than my present position I propose moving my headquarters there to-morrow morning, unless I hear from you to the contrary.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have the honor to report that the Second Division, General Potter, is now posted in the wood near Norfolk railroad, with right resting near the railroad. General Potter's headquarters are near the Avery house.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have the honor to report that the Third Division now occupy the line of infantry parapet from Fort Howard to Fort Davis and have relieved the picket line of the Second Corps. The line in front of Fort Howard to Fort Alexander Hays will be relieved at 7 a. m. on the 26th.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I ordered Ferrero to move his brigade at the Gurley House over to the front line, and I see it is now on its way. Not hearing from you about the garrison, I fear he may have moved without waiting for it. The brigade commanders may have been notified by the commandant of the garrison.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864—6.40 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

I have the honor to state in reply to your telegram of 6 p. m., that the Ninety-fourth New York Volunteers, Major McMahon, is now at Fort Davison. This regiment is assigned as the garrison of the fort. General Warren being absent, I send this.

Respectfully,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See p. 1014.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the following dispositions to complete the cavalry picket-line from Davenport Church to James River: One regiment (300 men) of the Second Division is posted near McCann's, on the Norfolk railroad, picketing from Davenport Church to the Two Bridges; on the Lee's Mill and Prince George Court-House road, one regiment of General Kautz's is posted at Sinai Church, connecting with the Second Division at Two Bridges; one regiment at Green's, covering the road leading from Prince George Court-House to Sycamore Church, with one regiment on the telegraph road near Merchant Hope Church. The line from the James River across the Weldon railroad to General Warren's left is thus completed. Of the Second Division four regiments are on picket and six regiments and one battalion and one company ready for instant duty.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 25, 1864—1 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

The commanding general directs that you extend your cavalry pickets westward from Gary's Church, so as to cover the line picketed by the Ninth Corps and connect with the left of Warren's picket-line south of the Gurley house. As soon as this is done inform General Parke, so that he may withdraw his pickets.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. E. DAVIES,
Commanding First Brigade, Second Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you at once establish a picket-line, connecting with the left of General Warren's line, south of Gurley house, and connecting with the right of the line of the Second Brigade at a point to be indicated by Major Taylor. This point is Richardson's house. The roads in front of the infantry will be covered. Five hundred men should establish the line to be maintained by your brigade. Report the establishment of your line as soon as it is made to these headquarters. Pickets will be maintained west of the Weldon railroad on the roads in front of the infantry as now posted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division, Cavalry Corps:

Major McCabe, commanding pickets, sends the following:

At 2 a. m. there was an attack made on the pickets on the Lee's Mill road by a dismounted party numbering twelve men, who came from the rear. I had two men wounded and lost one horse. Since then all has been quiet.

At daylight I sent a party of the First Maine Cavalry along the line of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania, with directions to make a thorough search for the party above mentioned. Have not yet heard from it.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 25, 1864.

Col. C. H. SMITH,
Commanding Second Brigade, Second Division:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you re-establish your picket-line, as it was two weeks ago, between the plank road and a point which will be designated by Major Taylor, as that at which connection will be made with the left of the line of the First Brigade. If the line from General Kautz's right to the point at which you will connect with the First Brigade can be established with 800 men do not employ more. Report to these headquarters the establishment of your new line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 25, 1864—11 a. m.

Surgeon-General BARNES,
Washington, D. C.:

The Atlantic and Baltic steamers, being sea-going steamers, are needed for the public service between now and the 10th of October, which service is approved by the lieutenant-general. I am unwilling to take the boats without consulting your department. Please have them temporarily turned over to my quartermaster.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C.,
No. 112. } *In the Field, September 25, 1864.*

Maj. George S. Dodge, having been assigned by the War Department for duty as chief quartermaster of the Army of the James, with the rank of colonel, is hereby announced as such.

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *September 25, 1864.*

Lieutenant DAVENPORT,
General Butler's Staff:

Agent left Richmond yesterday at 3 p. m. Early's second fight was known in Richmond about noon, and was spoken of at the Spotswood House as a defeat. Two regiments of infantry from Petersburg and one of the city battalions were sent yesterday to Lynchburg. Eight more guns were also sent down to be put in position at Chaffin's farm, and when the heavy firing of the salute here yesterday morning was heard in Richmond, another of the city battalions was formed and sent down to Chaffin's farm. Hampton's cavalry still reported on New Market Hill. Please telegraph me if you hear of any changes on your front, and whether you have anything confirming the reports received by me about Hampton's cavalry within the last two or three days.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
September 25, 1864.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE A. KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at James River tower reports situation unchanged from yesterday. Work is continued day and night on the rebel earth-works. One of our gun-boats near Jones' Landing shelled a clump of woods in rear of Aiken's, but no cause could be discovered from the tower. The officer at Spring Hill reports all quiet along the enemy's lines to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 264.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., September 25, 1864.

* * * * * * *

IV. Brig. Gen. G. F. Shepley, commanding District of Eastern Virginia, will direct Company M, Thirteenth New York Artillery, to report without delay to Brigadier-General Graham, commanding Naval Brigade, near Point of Rocks, Va.

V. Maj. F. R. Hassler, Thirteenth New York Artillery, will report to Brigadier-General Graham, commanding Naval Brigade, to perform the duties of inspector-general and engineer officer.

* * * * * * *

IX. Colonel Potter, commanding Provisional Brigade, will cause the Two hundredth and Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Regiments to be prepared, with ten days' rations (one day's at least of which should be cooked), to march early to-morrow morning, and report to the officer in command of the troops near Old Court-House, part of General

Heckman's division. They will take with them their transportation and other quartermaster's supplies. The senior officer of the two regiments will be put in command.

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By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *September 25, 1864.*

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy commenced firing this morning, dropping shells, mostly on this side of the canal, opposite the mortar batteries. The moment our guns opened, their fire was attracted to the immediate vicinity of our guns. But few shots have fallen directly into the canal to-day. The rebels began sharpshooting this a. m. at a point far below the excavation, but were soon silenced with canister and shell. This afternoon, I understand, they killed one man and wounded another at the north end of the ditch. Shall shell the bank to-morrow, using the patent shell, and try to bring them to terms. Forgot to report that the enemy opened with an 8-inch mortar yesterday, having previously used nothing but Coehorns. Am told they have placed another 8-inch in position this p. m. During my absence Major Ludlow fired two shots from the mortars, of which we have yet received no account; have waited anxiously.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 136. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 25, 1864.

1. The battalion of the Forty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops now belonging to this corps is assigned to the First Brigade, Third Division, and will report at once to Brig. Gen. William Birney, commanding.

* * * * * * *

8. The chief of artillery will mass his batteries at some point convenient to the depot and out of sight of the enemy. He will use every exertion to thoroughly equip the batteries for the coming campaign. Every attention will be paid to battery drill and instruction of the men and officers.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 34. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 25, 1864.

The Thirty-seventh New Jersey Volunteers, on the 26th instant, will leave for Trenton, N. J., reporting to the superintendent of recruiting service of that State, to be mustered out of service at the expiration

of its enlistment. The major-general commanding cannot part with this regiment of 100-days' men without expressing his gratification and satisfaction with their conduct. They have endured fatigue, encountered the rebel foe like good soldiers, and have gained the esteem of the veterans of this corps. He is confident that when they return to New Jersey, a State that has furnished such soldiers as Kearny, Mott, Torbert, they will continue to sustain the veterans they have left at the front, doing what Sherman advised, "fighting this out like men." The major-general commanding will be pleased to assist the commanding officer of this regiment in reorganizing it to aid in the finale of the rebellion in conjunction with this corps. The quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

By command of Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. —. } *In the Field, Deep Bottom, Va., September 25, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster, commanding Second Division, Tenth Army Corps, will leave the Two hundred and third Pennsylvania Volunteers in the fortifications at Deep Bottom, and will direct the commanding officer of that regiment to report at once to Brig. Gen. C. J. Paine, commanding Third Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, for instructions.

By command of Major-General Birney:

E. L. FORD,
Captain, Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Captain CLUM,
Chief Signal Officer:

Lieutenant Amsden reports the situation unchanged from yesterday. Work is continued day and night on the rebel earth-works. One of our gun-boats near Jones' Landing shelled a clump of woods in rear of Aiken's, but no cause could be discovered from the tower.

S. B. PARTRIDGE,
Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
September 25, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of Va. and N. C.:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the enemy are reported by a deserter to be throwing up breast-works along their picket-line near and beyond the Aiken house. The deserter supposed them intended to be made strong for a main line, not for a picket-line. The ground is entirely out of sight from any point within these lines. The Mackinaw has been throwing shells from a point just above the first bend of the river

above here, supposed to be at this working party. Officers in a look-out during the shelling judged the point shelled to be about a mile and a half from our pickets.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. PAINE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIGADE, KAUTZ'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, Va., September 25, 1864.

Capt. M. J. ASCH,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: In accordance to the orders of the commanding general, I proceeded in person this afternoon to establish my picket-line on the new line directed, viz, from the stage road, via telegraph road to Coggins' Point, &c., and find that from the stage road to James River near Coggins' Point there is a direct road. The distance allotted to me is seven miles, while Colonel West's line, with double my strength, is three miles, as thus: Colonel West pickets from Blackwater River via Mount Sinai Church to the stage road, which is but three miles, with two regiments. I am ordered to picket from stage road to Coggins' Point with one regiment and seventy-two men of another, seven miles distance, as thus: From stage road to Bland's house, two miles; from Bland's to Mount [Merchant] Hope Church, four miles; from Mount [Merchant] Hope Church to nearest point on the James (Coggins' Point), one mile; total, seven miles. The road is nearly straight and easy to picket. Now, if I may suggest, I will say Bland's house is a fair division of the line, and from it to James River I could be promptly responsible for security; but if, as directed, I must take the whole seven miles, it will be too much for my strength.

Trusting that my remarks may be received by the commanding general in the spirit I intend them, which is at all times for the good of the service and the welfare of the division,

I remain, with high respect, your obedient servant,

SAML. P. SPEAR,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 26, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The changes in the disposition of the troops, as reported in my dispatch yesterday, were made last night. Particular vigilance has been enjoined on the pickets and signal officers to detect any movements of the enemy. The accompanying reports, received this morning, are sent for your information.

NINTH ARMY CORPS.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The signal officer reports a force of the enemy, about two regiments, north-northwest from the Aiken house, struck camp this a. m.; marched out of camp, and have again returned, standing in company streets, under arms.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My lookout on station near the Gibbon house reports that "a column of infantry, moving to the left, was twenty minutes passing a point southwest from this station and beyond the city. They crossed open space to right of left steeple." This open space is about one mile beyond Petersburg and south of west from the body of the city.

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 26, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The following dispatches from signal officers are respectfully communicated to you for your information:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS.

General WILLIAMS.
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The following dispatch just received from signal officer:

"HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS—10 a. m.

"General HANCOCK:

"The signal station near the Friend house reports a column of enemy's infantry passing a point southwest from station going toward our left; was twenty minutes in passing the point.

"TAYLOR,
"*Captain.*

"P. S.—About 200 more infantry passed since the above.

"TAYLOR."

HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIGNAL DEPARTMENT.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A camp heretofore visible southwest of Cemetery Hill and about half a mile distant from said hill has disappeared. A new camp was pitched about noon to-day near the Richmond pike and about one mile and a half from Pocahontas; it would be about large enough for two regiments. While upon the station near the Gibbon house I saw the glistening of muskets through the foliage along the Richmond pike. The troops carrying the arms were moving toward Petersburg. The strength of the column I cannot approximate, as I only saw the latter part of it, but I do not think it was large or marched far, as I could not detect any stragglers. I give it for what it is worth.

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *September 26, 1864.* (Received 9.55 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

The lieutenant-general commanding wishes you would so arrange it that the battalion of First New York Volunteer Engineers lately serving with Tenth Corps may be spared from Petersburg and directed to report to General Butler.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 26, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel COMSTOCK,
City Point:

The battalion of the First New York Volunteer Engineers came with the Tenth Corps and I presumed went with it when relieved. I find, however, upon inquiry that two companies remained with Captain Gillespie; by whose authority detained I don't know. I have ordered them to be at once sent to General Butler.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
September 26, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from the Fifth Alabama Battalion, provost guard of A. P. Hill's corps, came into the lines of Major-General Warren, west side of the Weldon railroad, early this a. m. He left his battalion last evening about half a mile above the Canal Basin, near the canal. This is the camp where conscripts are received for A. P. Hill's corps. Informant states that conscripts are arriving in small numbers; some days as many as fifteen or twenty and many days none at all. Those sent to the other corps are not received at this place; no signs of a move when informant left; no re-enforcements received of late. Conscript deserter from the Forty-eighth Georgia Regiment, Wright's brigade, came into the lines of the Ninth Army Corps this morning; has been with the army only a week; can give no information other than that no movements are going on in his division, Mahone's.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

PLANK ROAD STATION,
September 26, 1864—before sunrise.

Major FISHER:

The enemy's line and camps in our immediate front apparently unchanged, although dimly seen on account of fog. The roads on the left not yet visible.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

FRIEND'S HOUSE, *September 26, 1864—11.45 a. m.*

Major FISHER:

A large camp southwest of Cemetery Hill disappeared last night or this morning. About 250 infantry just passed through the city moving to our left.

JORDAN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 26, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The lookout at the plank road station reports:

No indications of movements or change within any part of the enemy's lines visible from this point. Working parties are busy on works left of large fort west of the Weldon railroad, also in the vicinity of lead-works. A party is working on the plain in rear of Gregory's Chimneys. This party is within range of our batteries.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

SIGNAL STATION NEAR FRIEND'S HOUSE,
September 26, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major FISHER:

Nothing unusual since last report except appearance of small camp northwest of us near Petersburg and Richmond pike.

JORDAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 26, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

At 3 p. m. a cloud of dust was observed rising near the fort southwest of this town. On close examination it was thought that we could see guns glisten and that a column of troops was moving in the direction of the city. If it was troops they were two hours passing one point. Owing to the smoky condition of the atmosphere it was impossible to ascertain positively, but it was the impression that it was infantry. The following has been intercepted:

12 M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

The camps to the rear of open space have decreased. Twenty-five wagons passed open space going to the front in Chesterfield. One gun-boat above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

5.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One regiment of infantry is drilling on Marias [Maurice] Gilliam's farm. Two companies of cavalry just passed open space going to our left. About sixty horses passed open space going to our left. Eight wagons passed open space going to our left of Cobb's. One gun-boat above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 259. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *September 26, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

2. Brig. Gen. T. W. Egan, Volunteer service, is assigned to duty with the Second Army Corps, and will report to Major-General Hancock, commanding that corps, for further instructions.

* * * * * * *

10. Lieut. Col. J. S. Smith, chief commissary Second Army Corps, will in addition to his present duties discharge the duties of chief commissary of this army during the temporary absence of Lieut. Col. T. Wilson.

11. As the branch railroad from Cedar Level to the Weldon railroad is now completed and open for travel, it will be taken charge of by the provost-marshal-general of this army under the rules and regulations heretofore existing in like cases. Corps and other independent commanders are authorized to grant passes to officers and enlisted men of their command to visit City Point or other places on the road on necessary business, or when in their judgment permission may properly be granted, but no officer or enlisted man will be allowed to travel on the road without such pass. The provost-marshal-general will see that all persons visiting City Point without due authority are arrested.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Camp at City Point, Va., September 26, 1864.

Capt. E. P. DEACON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

The commanding general directs me to refer the inclosed communications to you, which are to be returned, for a report of the reasons upon which you informed him, while on a visit to your camp on Saturday afternoon, that "our cavalry, for the last two or three nights, had come in to within one mile and a half of our (the infantry's) front on Bailey's Creek, because the rebels were too strong for them at the post of Sycamore Church." As General Benham had deemed it his duty to report this and seek the earliest information at General Grant's headquarters, as nearest at hand, to enable him to act promptly if any emergency existed, the inclosed letters in relation to the matter have been received by him which it is necessary that he should reply to promptly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., September 26, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Captain Hicks, One hundred and forty-eighth New York Volunteers, commanding infantry outpost, from whom the information was derived which I communicated to Brigadier-General Benham.

E. P. DEACON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

CAMP OF 148TH NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
Near City Point, Va., September 26, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 23d instant, while on duty at the outpost of infantry picket, I met a captain belonging to the First District of Columbia Cavalry. I asked him how far out were the cavalry pickets. He replied about one mile and a half. I remarked that I had understood they were out farther than that. He replied that they had been out about six miles, at Sycamore Church, but that finding the enemy in too great force they had deemed it prudent to fall back and had done so. This I reported to Captain Deacon. Do not know the name of the captain who gave me the information.

MARTIN S. HICKS,
Captain Company I, 148th New York Volunteers.

[Third indorsement.]

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., September 26, 1864.

Shortly after receiving the aforesaid information from Captain Hicks, One hundred and forty-eighth New York Volunteers, Colonel Ripley being absent at the time, I deemed the information sufficiently important to acquaint General Benham of the facts in connection with it and who happened to be on the spot at the time.

E. P. DEACON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
City Point, September 27, 1864.

Respectfully returned to Major-General Humphreys, with reference to the indorsements on my letter to Captain Deacon, which seem to contain all the information to be obtained on the subject.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE, KAUTZ'S DIVISION,
September 25, 1864.

Capt. M. J. ASCH,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: Everything has been particularly quiet on my line during the night. I sent out a reconnoitering party to ascertain the correctness of the report "of pickets being driven in on my left," and find not the least foundation for such.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. P. SPEAR,
Colonel, Commanding Second Brigade, Kautz's Division.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 25, 1864—7 a. m.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Humphreys for his information.

The infantry commander at Old Court-House must have taken the statements of some of the First District of Columbia Cavalry without communicating with the officers in charge of that portion of the line.

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 25, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

The statement made through General Benham was not that the pickets had been driven in, but that they had come in, saying the enemy was too strong for them—that is, they had deserted their posts. The commanding general invites your attention to this point, into which a strict investigation should be made.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 25, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Colonel Spear for investigation and report.

By command of Brigadier-General Kautz:

M. J. ASCH,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE, KAUTZ'S DIVISION,
September 25, 1864.

Respectfully returned with report as ordered.

S. P. SPEAR,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

[Sub-inclosure.]

HDQRS. SECOND BRIGADE, KAUTZ'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, Va., September 25, 1864.

Capt. M. J. ASCH,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to return the inclosed communication with the following report, viz: At 9.30 p. m. last evening I received a dispatch "by command of General Kautz" and signed by you, stating that "our pickets had fallen back upon the infantry supports from Old Court-House," &c. Upon the receipt of this, I immediately sent for my brigade officer of the day, and directed him "to proceed in person at once and ascertain facts and report" the same to me. I also ordered an officer and fifty men "to reconnoiter my left" and to report at the earliest possible moment "the state of that portion of my line." Fearing there should be some mistake, I ordered my own horse saddled and in person visited my line. I found not the least foundation for such

report. I found the pickets posted exactly where they were ordered, and I found not one had fallen back upon the infantry supports. I found everything particularly quiet. My brigade officer of the day returned and reported:

All is right, sir; every sentinel is where I was directed to post him by your orders; none have fallen back, nor has there been the least cause for such report.

The officer in command of the reconnaissance of fifty men also returned and reported:

I have obeyed your orders; I have been to your extreme left and all is very quiet; no pickets have fallen back or have had cause for the least alarm.

My orders to my officers on that portion of the line intrusted to my charge are such as to furnish me "with the first indications of any irregularity or the approach of the enemy at once," and upon the reception of such report to furnish facts as soon as they can be ascertained to my commanding general. This course I have always pursued to the entire satisfaction of all my superiors.

I am, sir, with high respect, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL P. SPEAR,
Colonel Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, Commanding Brigade.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 26, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Humphreys, chief of staff, Army of the Potomac, for his information.

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 26, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Brigadier-General Benham, who will investigate the matter as reported in his command and endeavor to ascertain the names of the parties belonging to the cavalry that came into his command and made the reports referred to. He will also report to what persons in his command the statements of the cavalrymen were made.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, City Point:

GENERAL: I have received your communication of the 25th instant, in reply to mine of same date,* and am instructed to say that as the major-general commanding has received no official communication from the lieutenant-general commanding the armies in the field placing you immediately under his orders or withdrawing you from this army, that your communications to him mentioned in your letter were irregular,

*Neither found.

unnecessary, and should not have been made. That the experience of this army shows that the authority to use any part of a dismantled house or building for the personal convenience of the troops is equivalent to authorizing the wholesale destruction of every unoccupied building, and such authority will not therefore be given, nor will the appropriation to personal use of any furniture, whatever its condition, be allowed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
City Point, Va., September 26, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge your note of this date, in which you inform me that the commanding general considers that the communications with Lieutenant-General Grant, which I have reported in my letter of yesterday, "were irregular, unnecessary, and should not have been made." I beg you to assure the commanding general that I regret this extremely, and to assure him that nothing was farther from my intentions than to do anything irregular or improper, or that he would disapprove. And perhaps I was led into the mistake by the fact that in each of these two instances, occurring recently with General Meade, he has alluded to the direct orders that had been given me by General Grant, and my, of course, direct communication with him at times, but not in any terms at all of disapproval, as I understood him, especially as I mentioned to him the direct orders sent me (as by Major Barstow of June 18, 12.30 p. m.), to "report your (my) presence at City Point to Lieutenant-General Grant," which I did on my arrival, and as I supposed was General Meade's intention that General Grant might be able to give me orders direct when necessary. I even thought during the conversation of exp[laining this] to General Meade in hopes that I might not be misunderstood in future on account of any such direct communication, but his manner did not lead me to think this could be necessary. The report about the building, &c., I made to General Grant, supposing there might be some general rules for all the armies here in such matters, which I could learn more speedily there. I would mention other cases here in which I have had this direct communication, which I still will trust that General Meade will approve, as they were to me indispensable to safety here in my present duties.

Upon my finding I could not obtain any mounted men to picket in advance of my infantry over Bailey's Creek, for which you will recollect I applied to you, and when Colonel Gates notified me that by General Patrick's order he must withdraw his mounted men from that position, he suggested an application to General Grant (as he said he had sometimes asked) for some of the Fifth Regular Cavalry. I accordingly made the application. I deemed mounted men in my front to be indispensable. General Grant's reply, as reported to me, was that I did not need them, as Kautz's cavalry was well in front (as I understood the message, some five miles), and near Sycamore Church, of which I informed Colonel Ripley, the commandant of the brigade I had at Bailey's Creek. Again, on Saturday evening, when Colonel Ripley's acting assistant adjutant-general reported to me on my visit to his camp that "our cavalry in front had come back to within a mile and a

half of our lines for the last two or three nights, because the rebels were too strong for them near the post of Sycamore Church," I felt it a duty at once to communicate the information to General Grant as nearest, and ask for such information as he could give me on this subject, as much more speedily attainable for an emergency than it could be from your headquarters; and, with the exception of my calling upon General Grant in relation to the new intrenched lines here (as I was specially directed to do by General Meade), I can think of no other communication of the kind, except an inquiry, when some hundreds of surplus recruits had arrived for the Fiftieth Regiment, that I made of him as to whether there was any power short of Washington or the Governor of New York that could transfer these surplus men, as they desired to be, to the Fifteenth New York Engineers, and his reply was that it would require the final action, as he thought, of the Governor of the State of New York, but that he would give such an order personally. It may be proper to mention to you that a letter, in which certain promotions of officers of this brigade were recommended to the Governor of the State of New York, was addressed direct to General Meade, as I presumed he would deem most proper, as an extra official communication, and not of the kind required by the regulations to be addressed to yourself or to General Williams.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

SEPTEMBER 27, 1864—9.30 a. m.

P. S.—Your letter with inclosure in relation to the falling back of our cavalry has been referred to Captain Deacon, acting assistant adjutant-general of Colonel Ripley, with directions to state the grounds for such report to me, but it has not yet been returned to me.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 26, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

My line was changed last night as indicated in the order, a copy of which was furnished by General Humphreys last night. No other changes have occurred. General Gibbon assumed command of his division yesterday. I will probably furnish a list of the garrisons and commanders for the inclosed works to-day.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 26, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The commanding general desires that you will report by telegraph, as soon as practicable, what dismounted cavalry is serving with your command, the strength present for duty in each organization of such troops, and how each organization is armed and equipped, the object of the inquiry being to ascertain what number of horses and what equipments will be required to mount the dismounted cavalry.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Warren and Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 26, 1864. (Received 12.16 p. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

There is no dismounted cavalry in this command.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
September 26, 1864—6 p. m. (Received 7 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I find that the picket-line which General Mott desires me to relieve covers the front of Fort Davis and probably extends to the right front of it, and, besides, there is apparently no connection on the right of this line with that in front of Fort Sedgwick; or in other words, I am to relieve all on this side of the plank road. It may be that the location of the line is different from what can be observed from the front of Fort Davis. I have directed, however, General Mott's line to be relieved this p. m., but as the relief is to be taken from the Third Division (colored troops) I thought it best to let you know, so that your people in Fort Davis and on the right may be on the lookout, for, as these troops are all new, I cannot say how long they will hold on should the enemy advance with a yell.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 26, 1864.

General PARKE:

I particularly directed General Mott to-day to continue picketing a considerable distance to the left of the plank road, and understood that the arrangement was that he should keep at least fifty posts on the left of the plank road. I will at once direct him not to relieve his line to the plank road, but to cover considerably to the left of Fort Davis.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 26, 1864.

General PARKE:

I have referred your telegram to General Mott, and the following is his answer:

I would not feel safe unless my own picket-line covered the works I occupy, as the responsibility would not be felt properly, I think, by troops picketing another front than their own.

I prefer the picket-line now established by General Mott.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 26, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Your dispatch with accompanying one from General Mott received all right. General Pierce's brigade was relieved by Colonel Russell's brigade, of Ferrero's division, and occupied the rifle-pit on left of Fort Davis, relieving, of course, the picket in front of Pierce's brigade. To-day Lieutenant-Colonel McGee, corps officer of the day, and an aide of General Mott's came to see me in reference to relieving the pickets on the right of those formerly held by General Pierce. Thinking there might be some mistake or misunderstanding, I sent out my corps officer of the day. On his report I based my dispatch of 6 p. m. Eventually the mistake is with General Mott's aide. It is, however, now all right.

Yours, respectfully,

J. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 244.

HDQRS. SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Deserted House, before Petersburg, Va., September 26, 1864.

1. Brig. Gen. T. W. Egan, U. S. Volunteers, having reported in accordance with Special Orders, No. 259, headquarters Army of the Potomac, September 26, 1864, is hereby ordered to report to Major-General Gibbon, commanding Second Division, Second Corps, for assignment.

* * * * * * *

By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major, Judge-Advocate and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 26, 1864.

Captain EDGELL,
Acting Chief of Artillery, Second Corps:

CAPTAIN: Major-General Hancock directs me to say that he deems it necessary for the security of his line, and to prevent any confusion, that all orders affecting the position of the field guns should come through him. He directs, therefore, that you give an order to each battery (field) commander now on the line under his command to change position or withdraw from the line only when directed to do so by orders from these headquarters.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

(Copy furnished Brigadier-General Hunt, chief of artillery, Army of the Potomac.)

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 26, 1864.

Capt. JOHN N. CRAIG,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Artillery Hdqrs., Army of the Potomac:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report no changes in the enemy's lines observed or reported during the past twenty-four hours. In compliance with orders the following changes in the position of the light batteries were made last night: Burton's battery was withdrawn from the works on the right of the plank road and posted as follows: Two pieces in Fort McGilvery and two in Battery C; one piece of Parsons' battery withdrawn from Fort Meikel and posted in Battery 18; White's battery withdrawn from Battery 16 and posted, two pieces in Fort Haskell and two in Battery 11; two pieces of Ricketts' battery from Battery 11 to Fort Stedman; two pieces of McKnight's battery from Battery 8 to Battery 9; one piece of Roder's battery from Battery 8 to Fort McGilvery.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. M. EDGELL,
Captain, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 26, 1864.

Capt. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the garrisons and commanding officers of the forts assigned to this division, as follows: Fort McGilvery, 300 men, Maj. George W. Scott, Sixty-first New York Volunteers; Fort Stedman, 300 men, Capt. J. F. Weaver, One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers. The river is picketed from the right of the line of works by 260 men, toward the right. I have this morning moved the headquarters of this division to the Jordan house.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 26, 1864.

Capt. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to request that the Ninth Corps relieve my pickets to the Jerusalem plank road, it being a good dividing line, and I now have no troops to the left of said road with the exception of the regular garrisons in Fort Davis and the part of Fort Sedgwick which extends across the road, and are not subject to picket detail.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 26, 1864.

Capt. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the following change has been made in the lines of this division:

The line from the Strong house to Fort Davis was relieved by the Ninth Corps. Colonel McAllister, commanding Third Brigade, relieved Colonel Smyth's line from the Norfolk railroad to Fort Morton, connecting with General De Trobriand on the Norfolk railroad. The troops of the Second Brigade have been massed in the woods rear of the former headquarters of General Miles. The garrisons and commands of the forts have not been changed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in my front during yesterday and last night. Fort Davison was garrisoned yesterday afternoon by the Ninety-fourth New York Volunteers, Major McMahon commanding, and the breast-works in front line occupied by troops from General Crawford's division, relieving the Ninth Corps troops. Mink's battery was placed in Battery No. 26. A deserter, G. P. Mayfield, from Fifth Alabama [Battalion], was received last night and has been forwarded. This man has been in the service three years, and was one of the provost guard at A. P. Hill's headquarters, which place he left yesterday morning.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 26, 1864. (Received 1.16 p. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

The only regiment of dismounted cavalry in this command is the Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry, numbering present for duty 21 officers, 632 enlisted [men]; it is armed with muskets.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 26, 1864. (Sent 1.46 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The signal officer near Jordan's house reports that a large body of the enemy's infantry was seen southwest from signal station, moving toward our left.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to General Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 26, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have sent up a deserter from the Thirty-seventh North Carolina Volunteers. He reports no changes or movements of troops about Petersburg. He says working parties are fixing places for batteries on their lines. Lee, he heard, had gone up to see Early, and there was a talk of sending a regiment from each brigade of Hill's corps up to him. Examiner of to-day mentions Jeff. Davis as being in Macon. Have you seen this paper?

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 26, 1864.

Maj. E. C. BAIRD,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Division:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the effective strength of my command on the morning August 19, ultimo, as follows: Officers, 60; muskets, 700.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWD. S. BRAGG,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 26, 1864—9.10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have the honor to report nothing unusual transpired along my lines during the past twenty-four hours. The Third Division occupy the rifle-pits from Fort Howard to Fort Davis. The Second Division is in reserve back of the Avery house and the First Division in rear of line to the left of plank road.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 26, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

In reply to your telegram of this date calling for a report of the dismounted cavalry in this corps I have the honor to report as follows: The Twenty-fourth New York, present for duty, 10 commissioned officers, 334 enlisted men, armed with Star carbines, equipped as infantry; Thirteenth Ohio Cavalry, present for duty, 6 commissioned officers, 357 enlisted men, armed with Springfield muskets, equipped as infantry; Second New York Mounted Rifles, present for duty, 16 commissioned officers, 239 enlisted men, armed with carbines, caliber .57, equipped as infantry.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

The major-general commanding directs that General Kautz's division be relieved from picketing to-morrow, and concentrate at Prince George Court-House. He will receive directions as to the subsequent disposition of his division from these headquarters. The force relieving General Kautz will be so disposed as to watch and patrol the avenues of approach between the Blackwater and James.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. E. DAVIES,
Commanding First Brigade, Second Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that at an early hour to-morrow morning you move your brigade to the vicinity of Prince George Court-House and relieve General Kautz's division, picketing in that vicinity. You will so dispose of your regiments as to cover all the main approaches between the Norfolk railroad and James River. One regiment should be posted at Zion Church and another north of it, to cover the road leading to Sycamore Church and also the telegraph road. The right of your line will connect with the left of the Second Brigade on the Norfolk railroad. Any movements of importance on the part of the enemy you will report at once to headquarters Army of the Potomac, also regular daily reports will be forwarded to these headquarters. The chief quartermaster and commissary of the division will arrange for procuring your supplies. The greatest vigilance will be required on the part of the forces on picket to guard against surprise from the guerrilla parties that infest the section of country to be picketed by your brigade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 26, 1864.

Col. CHARLES H. SMITH,
Commanding Second Brigade, Second Division, Cavalry:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that at an early hour to-morrow morning you establish the following line of pickets, viz: From the Norfolk railroad on the Lee's Mill road to its intersection with the road leading to McCann's, near the plank road; from this road across the plank road by Gary's Church to the left of the picket line of the Fifth Army Corps; in addition, a force of seventy men will be placed on the Weldon railroad near the Wyatt road, covering that and other roads in front of the infantry line; also thirty men near the Flowers house, covering the Vaughan road toward Poplar Grove Church. All of the main approaches will be so covered that any

advance of the enemy will be discovered. A strong reserve will be placed on the plank road. Please send in a field return of your strength.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 26, 1864—6.25 p. m.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

Five companies of the Forty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops have been forwarded and are assigned by me to the Tenth Corps; five more companies are in Washington. It is a pity that the regiment should not be together. Please order the five companies to join their regiment.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
September 26, 1864.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE A. KENSEL, *Acting Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The signal officer at Spring Hill reports as follows:

Two trains toward Richmond partly loaded with troops and one toward Petersburg with few passengers. All quiet along enemy's lines.

The railroad cannot be seen from tower on James River. The officer on duty there reports situation unchanged from yesterday. The enemy still at work on earth-works.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 26, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Butler's Headquarters:

The officer in charge of the picket-line reports as follows: There has been unusual activity on the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad. Eleven trains have passed over the road to-day—nine have gone south empty and two north heavily loaded.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General, Commanding Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. V. KAUTZ, *Commanding Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: Brigadier-General Gregg, commanding, directs me to inform you that, in compliance with instructions received from headquarters Army of the Potomac, at an early hour to-morrow morning General Davies' brigade, of this division, will proceed to Prince George Court-House to relieve your division. Upon being relieved you will

concentrate your division at Prince George Court-House, where you will receive directions from headquarters Army of the Potomac as to the subsequent disposition of your command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Fort Pocahontas, Va., September 26, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel PATTERSON:

I desire that you will take 200 men from the Second New Hampshire and Sixteenth New York Heavy Artillery and twenty mounted men of the First U. S. Colored Cavalry, with two days' rations and forty rounds of ammunition per man, and embark at 3 o'clock to-morrow morning on the gun-boat Mosswood and a barge, which she will take in tow. You will then proceed up the Chickahominy to Hog Neck and disembark on the left bank about ten miles above the mouth of the river. You will then push into the country some four or five miles and sweep down to Barrett's Ferry, near the mouth of the Chickahominy, gathering such horses, mules, cattle, and sheep as may be useful to the army, and taking along with you such colored men and their families as desire to come within our lines. If you find any considerable amount of corn you may seize that also if you can find means to transport it to your boats. You are required particularly to examine the country, and especially along the river for torpedoes, which it is believed are concealed there, and to make diligent inquiry of all the people whom you may chance to meet in relation to a party of soldiers who, on the 19th instant, came from Richmond with torpedoes, as it is believed. You will not allow officers or men to enter the dwellings of the people for the purpose of disturbing the occupants, and you will take no other property but animals and grain which will be useful in subsisting the army and affording it transportation. The Mosswood, after you have disembarked, will drop down the river to Barrett's Ferry, where you will re-embark your command when you deem that nothing useful can be accomplished by prolonging your stay. At furthest, you will not remain absent more than two days.

GILMAN MARSTON,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 27, 1864.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.*.

The exercise of the right of suffrage by the officers and soldiers of armies in the field is a novel thing. It has, I believe, generally been considered dangerous to constitutional liberty and subversive of military discipline. But our circumstances are novel and exceptional. A very large proportion of legal voters of the United States are now either under arms in the field, or in hospitals, or otherwise engaged in the military service of the United States. Most of these men are not regular soldiers in the strict sense of that term; still less are they mercenaries who give their services to the Government simply for its pay, having little understanding of political questions or feeling little or no interest in them. On the contrary, they are American citizens, having still their homes and social and political ties binding them to the States and districts from which they come,

and to which they expect to return. They have left their homes temporarily to sustain the cause of their country in the hour of its trial. In performing this sacred duty they should not be deprived of a most precious privilege. They have as much right to demand that their votes shall be counted in the choice of their rulers as those citizens who remain at home. Nay, more, for they have sacrificed more for their country. I state these reasons in full, for the unusual thing of allowing armies in the field to vote, that I may urge on the other hand that nothing more than the fullest exercise of this right should be allowed, for anything not absolutely necessary to this exercise cannot but be dangerous to the liberties of the country. The officers and soldiers have every means of understanding the questions before the country. The newspapers are freely circulated, and so, I believe, are the documents prepared by both parties to set forth the merits and claims of their candidates. Beyond this nothing whatever should be allowed. No political meetings, no harangues from soldiers or citizens, and no canvassing of camps or regiments for votes. I see not why a single individual not belonging to the armies should be admitted into their lines to deliver tickets. In my opinion the tickets should be furnished by the chief provost-marshal of each army, by them to the provost-marshal (or some other appointed officer) of each brigade or regiment, who shall on the day of election deliver tickets irrespective of party to whoever may call for them. If, however, it shall be deemed expedient to admit citizens to deliver tickets, then it should be most positively prohibited that such citizens should electioneer, harangue, or canvass the regiments in any way. Their business should be, and only be, to distribute on a certain fixed day tickets to whoever may call for them. In the case of those States whose soldiers vote by proxy, proper State authority could be given to officers belonging to regiments so voting to receive and forward votes. As it is intended that all soldiers entitled to vote shall exercise that privilege according to their own convictions of right, unmolested and unrestricted, there will be no objection to each party sending to armies, easy of access, a number of respectable gentlemen to see that these views are fully carried out. To the army at Atlanta, and those armies on the sea-coast from New Berne to New Orleans, not to exceed three citizens of each party should be admitted.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 27, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

I have directed General Halleck to order forward at once to the Army of the Potomac the six Michigan regiments mentioned by you yesterday, and the recruits to be sent after them as fast as collected.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., September 27, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE, *Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: On the morning of the 29th instant a movement will take place intended to surprise and capture the works of the enemy north of the James River and between Malvern Hill and Richmond. The troops engaged in this will be taken exclusively from the Tenth

and Eighteenth Army Corps. Although these troops will be instructed to push directly for Richmond, if successful in breaking through the outer line of rebel works, it is hardly expected that so much can be accomplished, but as against the force now kept north of the James River by the enemy General Butler can force his way to Richmond, and will do it unless they largely re-enforce from Petersburg. As a co-operative movement with this you will please have the Army of the Potomac under arms at 4 a. m. on the 29th ready to move in any direction. They should have three or four days' rations in haversacks and sixty rounds of ammunition on the person, including that in the cartridge-boxes. It was my intention to give specific instructions for a concentration of all the force you could spare on your left, and for a demonstration as if to extend our lines in that direction, but, on reflection, I will leave the details to you, stating merely that I want every effort used to convince the enemy that the South Side road and Petersburg are the objects of our efforts. Should the enemy draw off such a force from the defenses of Petersburg as to justify you in moving either for the South Side road or Petersburg, I want you to do it without waiting for instructions, and in your own way. One thing, however, I would say: If the road is reached it, or a position commanding it, should be held at all hazards. If it becomes necessary to maintain the position against an attack, draw off from our present defenses what force you deem necessary, always keeping the garrisons detailed for the inclosed works on the line intact, however. All trains should be harnessed, hitched, and ready to move at a moment's notice. The accumulation of supplies at depots along the railroad should also be stopped, and as far as practicable that now on hand in depot should be got in wagons. At the beginning of this move I shall be on the north side of the river. Up to 8 a. m., however, dispatches may be directed to me at City Point; after that hour, until otherwise directed, at Deep Bottom.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 27, 1864—9.30 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE:

If troops can be moved to-morrow, so as to give the appearance of massing on our left, it would serve to deceive the enemy. I think also it will be advisable to send scouts some distance to the southeast to discover if the enemy are moving cavalry around toward the James.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 27, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Do you refer to movements within or without our lines? I can send two divisions of the Ninth Corps to-morrow beyond our left and beyond where Warren was the other day. If attacked they can be supported by two of Warren's divisions. This is what I proposed to do, under your instructions, the next day; but it will, no doubt, have much more effect to-morrow than the next day, though it will also be more likely to bring on an engagement.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 27, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

What I meant was to move troops within our lines; not openly, but so that the enemy would likely get glimpses of them and think there was a concentration on our left. The Tenth Corps, moving to Bermuda Hundred to-night, will be missed from its position in the morning, and if the enemy can be deceived into thinking they have gone round to the left it will aid us.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *September 27, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE:

I am directed to respectfully request that you will have all new volunteer regiments that have joined your army and all that may join hereafter inspected, so as to ascertain the strength of each upon arrival. Where desertions have occurred en route the loss should be investigated so as to ascertain the parties, if any, to whom the neglect in reference thereto may attach. The new regiments on leaving State have an average strength of 950.

THOS. M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
September 27, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Deserter from Forty-eighth North Carolina, Cooke's brigade, Heth's division, came in last evening, opposite the Burnside mine, into the lines of General Mott's division. He reports that two brigades of Heth's division are in line in the trenches at this point, the other two brigades on the extreme right of the line; that Hoke's division is about half a mile to the rear in reserve, and is all the reserve troops he knows of; has been lying there some six or eight days, ever since it came back from the right; Field's division, that went to the right with Hoke's some ten days ago, had not returned when informant left; that the army will be paid in a few days four months' pay, and many men are ready to desert as soon as they can send their pay home to their families; have sent Early no re-enforcements. Deserter from Thirty-seventh North Carolina, Lane's brigade, Wilcox's division, came in yesterday at 2 p. m. He brings no important information; was a rumor that one regiment from each brigade of Hill's corps would be sent to the assistance of Early, but it has not yet been done. The following sketch shows the relative position of Lee's army from latest information, including all the force south of the Appomattox.* Three

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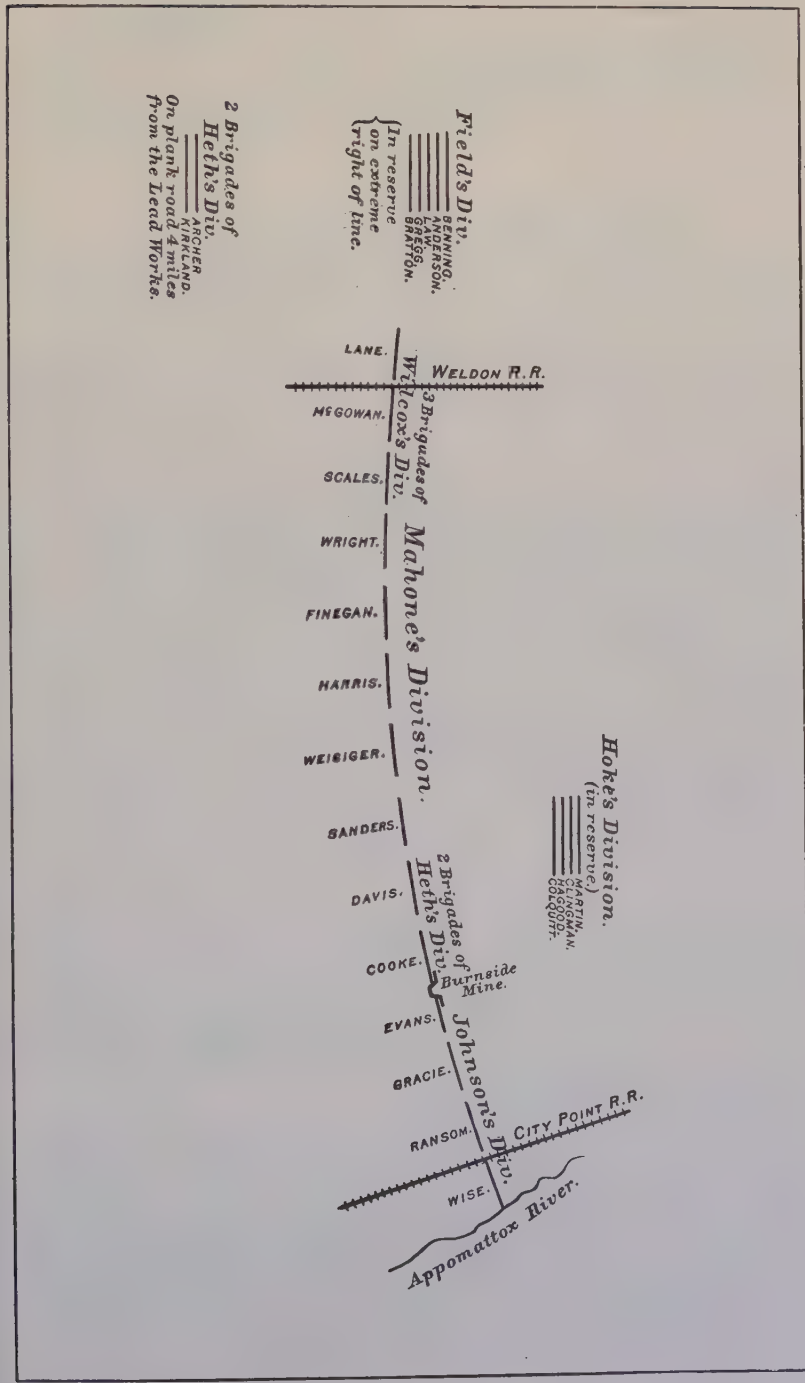
* See p. 1049.


Field's Div.
BENNING.
ANDERSON.
LAW.
GREGG.
BRATTON.
In reserve on extreme right of line.
2 Brigades of Heth's Div.
ARCHER.
KIRKLAND.
On plank road 4 miles from the Lead Works.
LANE.
WELDON R.R.
McGOWAN.
3 Brigades of Wilcox's Div.
SCALES.
WRIGHT.
Mahone's Division.
FINEGAN.
HARRIS.
WEISIGER.
SANDERS.
DAVIS.
2 Brigades of Heth's Div.
COOKE.
Burnside Mine.
EVANS.
Johnson's Div.
GRACIE.
RANSOM.
CITY POINT R.R.
WISE.
Appomattox River.
Hoke's Division.
(in reserve.)
MARTIN.
CLINGMAN.
HAGOOD.
COLQUITT.

deserters from the Forty-sixth Virginia, Wise's brigade, of Johnson's division, came in this a. m. They state that Hoke's division would relieve Johnson this a. m.; that it is understood each division relieves the other every ten days; no movements.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
City Point, Va., September 27, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The Union men of Richmond sent us word last night, through our scouts, that the telegraph operator had left Staunton night before last—Sunday night. The dispatch also stated that the Yankees were expected to occupy Staunton early yesterday morning; General Early was retreating to Waynesborough; General Lee was in Richmond on Saturday in consultation with the War Department, and pontoon bridges were being put across the Appomattox. Fitz Lee had arrived in town wounded, his command remaining with Early. The three regiments formerly reported as having been sent to Lynchburg are all the troops that have been moved within the last week. Silver sold in Richmond yesterday at 29 for 1, and gold at 30 for 1. Mr. Davis had not returned from Hood's army up to yesterday morning at 10 o'clock. The common rumors of the evacuation of Richmond are gaining strength. The wounded of Early's army are expected to arrive in Richmond, but none of them have yet arrived. The bridges at Chaffin's, if taken up, have been replaced, as one of our agents saw South Carolinians on Sunday belonging to Bratton's brigade, of Field's division, who had just crossed the bridge. Files of Richmond papers are forwarded herewith.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

(Same to General Butler.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
September 27, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Seven deserters (one sergeant, two corporals, and four privates) from the Sixth Virginia, Mahone's old brigade and division, came into our lines this a. m. They bring no new information. Their regiment (Sixth Virginia) numbers less than 200 men for duty, and the brigade is less than 1,000 strong. In the estimate of strength of Lee's army forwarded a few days since, both Heth's and Mahone's divisions are overestimated. There are not 5,000 men for duty at present in either division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

SEPTEMBER 27, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Deserters to-day from Wise's and Mahone's old brigade. No changes in position of the enemy. Rumor that one regiment from each brigade of A. P. Hill's corps will be sent to Early.

J. C. B[ABCOCK].

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 27, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatches received from the plank road station:

6.30 A. M.

All quiet and no indication of movements in enemy's lines. A small working party engaged in vicinity of lead-works.

8 A. M.

At 7.30 2,000 infantry appeared coming from the woods northwest of the large fort west of the Weldon railroad and moved toward our left on line of the railroad. A few of them carried stretchers.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 27, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch from the plank road station is respectfully forwarded:

9 A. M.

Fifteen hundred infantry have just passed to our left on line of Weldon railroad coming from the woods northwest of large fort west of Weldon railroad. Enemy working in vicinity of said fort and to the extreme left, visible from this point.

(This would be about half a mile west of the railroad and about a mile or more from the lead-works.)

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

SEPTEMBER 27, 1864—9 a. m.

Major FISHER:

A party of enemy are working on fortifications to my left over woods. Otherwise a[ll] q[uiet].

I. S. LYON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 27, 1864—9 a. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

All quiet this a. m. Can find nothing to confirm my report of last evening.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

NEAR FRIEND'S HOUSE, *September 27, 1864—5.20 p. m.*

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

No unusual movements to-day. The enemy still have small fatigue parties on their works to left of cemetery and on new line.

JORDAN.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 27, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER:

In addition to working parties reported this a. m. there is a small party at work northwest from station, but so covered by works as to be secured from the effects of our artillery. A considerable force is also at work in rear of main line of works extending from the large fort on Weldon railroad about 300 yards to the left. This last force is independent of those at work on main line, and is apparently working on a new line. All quiet.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 27, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

All quiet this p. m. The following has been intercepted:

9.30 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

The artillery in camp near Battery 5 have just moved off in the direction of Cobb's.

J. Q. E[THEREDGE],
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

9.45 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One regiment of cavalry drilling in open space. Two gun-boats above pontoon. One steamer off Point of Rocks.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

10 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

The artillery has returned and is now drilling.

J. Q. E[THEREDGE],
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

11 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

The enemy have put one gun in position in front of open space. One regiment of infantry drilling in front of hospital tents.

J. Q. E[THEREDGE],
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

12 M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One regiment of infantry came from front to the left of Cobb's and passed open space going to the front in Prince George. One regiment came from same place going toward City Point, and one going east side of Jordan's house.

J. Q. E[THEREDGE],
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

2.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

A train of cars just passed on City Point Railroad loaded with troops going toward City Point.

J. Q. E[THEREDGE],
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

5.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

All quiet this p. m. Ten six-horse wagons with several squads of cavalry just passed open space going to the front in Prince George. One gun-boat above pontoon.

J. Q. E[THEREDGE],
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

The enemy have just put one gun in position in the works to our right of Fort Clifton. It is a field piece.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 260. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *September 27, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

4. The following-mentioned regiments of dismounted cavalry, now serving as infantry, will report, with as little delay as practicable, to Brig. Gen. D. McM. Gregg, commanding Second Cavalry Division, who will cause the necessary requisition to be promptly made on the proper departments for the horses and equipments required to mount the regiments, viz: Second New York Mounted Rifles, Ninth Army Corps; Twenty-fourth New York Cavalry, Ninth Army Corps; Thirteenth Ohio Cavalry, Ninth Army Corps; Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry, Fifth Army Corps.

* * * * * * *

8. The execution of paragraph 4 of Special Orders, No. 260, of this date, requiring that the following-mentioned regi ents of dismounted cavalry report to Brig. Gen. D. McM. Gregg, commanding Second Cavalry Division, for the purpose of being mounted, is suspended for the present: Second New York Mounted Rifles, Ninth Army Corps; Twenty-fourth New York Cavalry, Ninth Army Corps; Thirteenth Ohio Cavalry, Ninth Army Corps; Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry, Fifth Army Corps.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 27, 1864—7.45 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel MORGAN,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal station at Fort Davis, on Jerusalem plank road, reports that at 7.30 this a. m. 2,000 infantry appeared coming from woods northwest of large fort, and moved to our left on line of Weldon railroad. A few of them carried stretchers.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 27, 1864. (Received 10.20 a. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There has been no change in the disposition of my command since last report, except that the Ninth Corps have relieved a part of the extreme left of my picket-line.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 36. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 27, 1864.

Division commanders will impress upon the commanders of inclosed works the necessity of holding these works under every contingency; no matter what may occur in the connecting lines the forts are to be held. Properly defended they are capable of resisting the heaviest assaults the enemy can make, and any commander who vacates or yields one of them without orders from headquarters of the army, communicated through these headquarters, will be held to a strict accountability. In case of attack on the line the troops near the point of attack, after having resisted to the extent of their power, will form to protect the batteries between the forts. If driven from there they will be formed as reserves behind the works prepared to follow the enemy after they are broken by the fire of the works.

Two hundred rounds of small-arm ammunition, exclusive of that on the persons of the men, will be kept in the magazines of the forts. The chief of artillery will provide a suitable amount of artillery ammunition for the field guns, especially of canister, and spherical case for each of the inclosed works.

Where the magazines are not now in suitable condition for the reception of ammunition the fact will be at once communicated to these headquarters. Where the defect cannot be easily remedied by the garrison an engineer officer will be sent to take charge of the work.

Ammunition must be examined and exposed to the air daily when the weather admits.

No changes affecting the field of fire for the artillery, the capacity of the works to hold troops, or, generally, the offensive or defensive power of the forts will be made without previous reference to these headquarters. This prohibition is not intended, of course, to prevent commanders from giving the necessary instructions where immediate action is necessary.

As a general rule, the senior artillery officer in each fort will be responsible for the proper use of artillery in case of action, and the power of the post commander, over artillery, due his rank, is not expected to be exercised, except in cases of unusual emergency, the artillery officer being generally the better judge in his own arm of the service and having special instructions to guide him.

The particular province of the infantry garrison is to defend the fort until the artillery can have its full effect in breaking the enemy's lines.

The general instructions for the artillery on the lines are to answer all fire from the enemy and to open on all bodies of troops or working parties within range.

Signal stations in communication with these headquarters are established at the Friend house and the Avery house.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[SEPTEMBER 27, 1864.—For circular from headquarters Second Army Corps, relating to the police of intrenchments, &c., see p. 634.]

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 27, 1864. (Received 10 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in my front yesterday and during the night. A deserter from Thirty-seventh North Carolina came in yesterday afternoon and was forwarded.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 27, 1864—9.50 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The signal officer on the plank road reports that at 7.30 a. m. 2,000 infantry came from woods northwest of large fort on the Weldon railroad and moved to our left on the line of the railroad. A few carried stretchers.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 27, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The signal officer on plank road reports at 9 a. m. a body of 1,500 infantry moving out of woods northwest of fort west of Weldon railroad, and moving to our left on the railroad.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 27, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

The signal officer reports a force of the enemy, about two regiments, north-northwest from the Aiken house, struck camp this a. m.; marched out of camp, and have again returned, standing in company streets under arms.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 27, 1864.

General WARREN,
Commanding:

GENERAL: I saw Parke this afternoon. He tells me that eight or ten deserters from the Sixth Virginia came into his lines to-day, who report that great depression exists among the men of the rebel army; that it was well known that Early had been twice defeated in the Valley, and that a rumor prevailed to-day that our cavalry was in Gordonsville. Do you wish me to occupy the entire line from Fort Howard to the right of Ayres? If so, I have no reserve. I understood that Ayres was to move to the right yesterday. The camps vacated by the Ninth Corps were so filthy that I have ordered my regiments to new ground in rear.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
September 27, 1864.

General WARREN,
Commanding:

GENERAL: I called to-day to ask whether you desired that I should occupy the whole line from Fort Howard to Ayres' left. I beg that you will direct differently, as now I have no reserve whatever.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 27, 1864—9 a. m. (Received 10.30 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual occurred on my line during the last twenty-four hours. Six rebel deserters came through the lines of the Third Division since last report. One was sent to headquarters yesterday morning, the rest will be forwarded this morning.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 27, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on the line picketed by the cavalry. This morning General Davies' brigade, of this division, moved to Prince George Court-House to relieve General Kautz, and establish a line covering all the approaches between the James River and the Norfolk railroad, at which place connection will be made with the Second Brigade of the division. The line occupied by this division is so long that at many points a forcible attack of the enemy could not be seriously resisted, but the dispositions are such that with vigilance timely notice will be had of the approach of the enemy on any of the roads. General Davies will have two regiments and a fraction of a third in reserve at Prince George. The Second Brigade will have three regiments and a fraction of a fourth in reserve on the plank road. There will be a battery with the reserve of each brigade.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 27, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:
(Through Ninth Corps Headquarters.)

The major-general commanding directs that you send a strong scouting party early to-morrow morning from the reserve at Prince George Court-House in a southeasterly direction, to ascertain whether the enemy is moving any cavalry toward the James River.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 27, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The reserve from which the scouting party is to be sent is that of General Davies.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION.
Prince George Court-House, September 27, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Capt. H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division Cavalry:

I have entirely relieved General Kautz, and my line is established from the Norfolk railroad to the James. All quiet.

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 27, 1864—11.30 a. m.*

General BUTLER:

Make all your changes of troops at once, ready for the execution of orders verbally communicated, so as to have troops as fresh as possible.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 27, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding, &c.:

Telegram received. The dispositions are being made.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 27, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Army of the James:

Prepare your army according to the verbal instructions already given for moving on the morning of the 29th instant. Your lines between the James and Appomattox Rivers can be held with new regiments and such artillery as you deem necessary. All garrisons from your command below the mouth of the Appomattox will be left as they are now. The movement should be commenced at night, and so as to get a considerable force north of the James River, ready to assault the enemy's lines in front of Deep Bottom, and from Aiken's house or other point above Deep Bottom, where the two assaulting columns will be in easy supporting distance of each other, as soon as the enemy's line is broken at the dawn of day. If one good division from each of your corps are over in time for this, with the balance of these corps following, with a pontoon bridge for each, it will answer. The object of this movement is to surprise and capture Richmond, if possible. This cannot be done if time is given the enemy to move forces to the north side of the river. Success will depend on prompt movement at the start. Should the outer line be broken, the troops will push for Richmond with all promptness, following roads as near the river as possible. It is impossible to point out the line of march for an army in the presence of the enemy, because the enemy may interpose such an obstacle in our route as to make it impracticable. It is known that the enemy has intrenched positions on the bank of the river between Deep Bottom and Richmond, such as Chaffin's farm, which are garrisoned. If these can be captured in passing, they should be held by suitable garrisons. If not captured, troops should be left to hold them in their position, and should intrench to make themselves strong. It will be necessary, therefore, to have your engineer troops, with their tools, well up with the advance. Should you succeed in getting to Richmond, the interposition of the whole army (rebel) between you and your supplies need cause you no alarm. With the army under General Meade, supplies could be cut off from the enemy in the event of so unexpected a move, and communication opened with you either by the south side or from the White House before the supplies you would find in the city would be exhausted. In

case you reach Richmond, the details for garrisoning and holding the place are left to you or the senior officer of the troops that get in. One thing I would say, however, all the bridges connecting the city with the south side should be destroyed at once or held beyond a peradventure. As the success of the enterprise depends entirely on celerity, the troops will go light. They will take only a single blanket rolled and carried over the shoulder, three days' rations in haversacks, and sixty rounds of ammunition in box and on the person. No wagons will be taken. They will be supplied, however, with six days' rations, half forage for the same time, and forty rounds of extra ammunition for men, to follow if they should be required. No wagons will cross the James River till ordered by you. The whole of the force under General Meade will be under arms at 4 a. m. on the 29th, ready to attack Petersburg or move to the South Side road, as circumstances may determine. As against any force now north of the James River you can go to Richmond even without a surprise. If the enemy resists you by sufficient force to prevent your advance, it is confidently expected that General Meade can gain a decisive advantage on his end of the line. The prize sought is either Richmond or Petersburg, or a position which will secure the fall of the latter. Please furnish me with a copy of your detailed instructions.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 27, 1864—11.15 a. m.

His Excellency Governor CONY,
Augusta, Me.:

The Eighth and Eleventh Maine regiments are in my command and are weak. They will require about 500 men each to bring them to full efficiency. Can you not send me a detachment of about that number of recruits that may be put in these regiments? One recruit in an old regiment is worth two in a new organization. If you cannot do this I do not see but that we must consolidate the regiments, which I should regret to do. Please answer by telegraph.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
September 27, 1864.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE A. KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at tower on James River reports: "About 200 infantry going across the rear of Chaffin's farm toward New Market road."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
September 27, 1864.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE A. KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at James River tower reports situation unchanged, with exception that enemy are extending disconnected rifle-pits to their left of the Cox's Ferry work on the bluffs along the river, screening them with bushes as they are being made. No more troops have been seen since those reported at 4 p. m. crossed Chaffin's farm. Four wagons passed along this road about noon in same direction; four others were seen going in opposite direction near pontoon bridge. The signal officer at Spring Hill reports all quiet on enemy's lines this p. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
September 27, 1864.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE A. KENSEL,
Acting Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The following message just received from Spring Hill:

A train of ten cars loaded with troops toward Petersburg.

A. G. SIMONS,
Lieutenant and Acting Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

(Forwarded to General Grant.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 266.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., September 27, 1864.

* * * * * * *

III. Major-General Ord, commanding Eighteenth Army Corps, will direct two companies of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry and one company of the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry to report at once to Brig. Gen. A. V. Kautz, at Jones' Neck.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Butler:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *September 27, 1864.*

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy opened as usual this morning, firing quite rapidly and constantly until about 2

p. m. Three negroes wounded during the day outside canal. Their light piece ventured to send us a few shots, but was soon silenced. Think my extreme left battery for 10-pounder guns is just what is needed; used it for the first time this a. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
September 27, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY:

Relieve the First Maryland Cavalry and order them to report with transportation and baggage at Bermuda Hundred at once for the purpose of being mounted and equipped.

By command of Major-General Butler:

GEO. A. KENSEL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 35. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 27, 1864.

I. The department commander has appointed Lieut. Col. E. W. Smith assistant adjutant-general on his staff, relieving him from duty with the Tenth Army Corps. In parting with this officer the major-general commanding the corps takes pleasure in testifying to his assiduous attention to the duties of his office. He also is pleased with the advancement of a good soldier, although he may regret losing such a staff officer.

II. Capt. E. L. Ford, aide-de-camp, will temporarily fill the position of assistant adjutant-general.

III. Capt. C. H. Graves, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, is announced as an aide-de-camp to the commanding general, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney:

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 138. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., September 27, 1864.

1. The Birney First Sharpshooters (Two hundred and third Pennsylvania Volunteers) are assigned to the Second Brigade, Second Division. The commanding officer will at once report with his command to Brigadier-General Foster, commanding division. The proper allowance of transportation and camp equipage will be at once assigned to the regiment.

* * * * * * *

5. The First Maryland Cavalry (dismounted) are hereby relieved from duty with this corps, and will proceed at once with transportation and baggage to Bermuda Hundred, and report for the purpose of being mounted and equipped.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Birney:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 27, 1864.

This command will be in readiness to move by 3 o'clock to-morrow afternoon. The men will carry two days' rations in haversacks. All camp and garrison equipage, beyond the allowance by Special Orders, No. 44, from headquarters Armies of the United States, will be turned in to the quartermaster's department. All superfluous clothing should be carefully boxed, marked, and turned over at the depot for storage. Upon receiving orders to march all details at the depots, &c., will be called in and join the command.

By command of Major-General Birney:

E. L. FORD,
Captain, Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 27, 1864.

The major-general commanding directs that the daily reports giving a summary of events, called for by letter from these headquarters of August 30, 1864, will be discontinued until further orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. L. FORD,
Captain, Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 27, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

I acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch and inclosures, by Captain Moore, of your staff. I have ordered the One hundred and eighty-fourth New York Volunteers and the Thirty-eighth New Jersey Volunteers, of the Provisional Brigade, who are reported not effective for field service in your return, to be sent to Forts Pocahontas and Powhatan to relieve the Eighty-ninth New York and the colored regiments there and at Harrison's Landing. I will order the Eighty-ninth New York at once here and the colored regiments directly to Deep Bottom. I will also direct that Heckman's brigade, at Old Court-House, be relieved and marched over this evening to join his command. I think your suggestion well to allow your horse battery to report to General Kautz. Please make the order.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 27, 1864—9.55 a. m.

General U. S. GRANT:

A lieutenant, deserter from the rebels, is in this morning; states that the belief among them is that should Lynchburg—which is strongly fortified—be captured, it would give you the Danville road, and want of food would compel the evacuation of Lee's present posi-

tion; that they have not force enough to re-enforce Lynchburg, and their fears are that Richmond will be approached from that quarter. This lieutenant is an intelligent officer from Virginia, and, I am sure, speaks candidly.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 119. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., September 27, 1864.

* * * * * * *

V. Col. E. H. Ripley, commanding detachments of First and Second Brigades of this division, will, upon receipt of this order, strike tents and march at once for this point, and upon arrival you will report to these headquarters. It is absolutely necessary that you move at once, as the movement must be completed before daylight and as quietly as possible.

By command of Brig. Gen. C. A. Heckman:

W. H. ABEL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 27, 1864.

Brigadier-General MARSTON,
Commanding at Fort Pocahontas:

GENERAL: General Butler sends you to-day the One hundred and eighty-fourth New York and the Thirty-eighth New Jersey Volunteers, in all about 1,000 men, and wishes you to send by return boat the Eighty-ninth New York and the two colored regiments now in your command. Direct the Eighty-ninth to land at Bermuda and report at these headquarters; the two colored regiments to proceed at once up the river to Deep Bottom and report to the commanding officer of that post. The commanding general wishes these movements made with the utmost dispatch.

Respectfully,

GEO. A. KENSEL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 27, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

The major-general commanding directs that when your division is concentrated to-day at Prince George Court-House you report in person to Major-General Butler.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 27, 1864.

Colonel SPEAR:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs me to inform you that, in accordance with instructions from headquarters Army of the Potomac, your brigade will be relieved this morning by Brigadier-General Davies, of the Second Cavalry Division. As soon as relieved you will concentrate your command at Prince George Court-House and there await further instructions from these headquarters.

Very respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

M. J. ASCH,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 27, 1864.

Colonel SPEAR:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you move your command to the ground it formerly occupied at Jones' Neck, but not to move from Prince George Court-House till 6 o'clock this evening.

Very respectfully,

M. J. ASCH,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 28, 1864—4.30 p. m.*
(Received 7 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. J. K. BARNES,
Surgeon-General:

I have called upon General Butler to know why he wanted the two ocean hospital steamers of which you telegraphed, but have received no reply. Until you hear from me on the subject you need not send them.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 28, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

A division of the Ninth Corps was this morning after daylight, and at places within view of the enemy, moved from near the Avery house to the Gurley house. No other movements or events of importance to report. I send a dispatch just received from Warren.* Peebles' farm is just north of Poplar Spring Church, the works being constructed are to hold the Squirrel Level road and the one next to it. I am coming in to see you as soon as I can get a train.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* See Warren to Humphreys, 11 a. m., p. 1074.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 28, 1864—1.45 p. m. (Sent 2 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE,
City Point:

I can get nothing further from the two deserters as to how far beyond Peebles' fields the rifle-pits extend or in what direction. They say that there are a good many infantry in the rifle-pits, and that they are building a fort near the tobacco house in the middle of the field for sixteen guns. They saw a battery of four guns near the fort, which is not yet finished. It is about 1,000 yards from the fork of the roads and is put up to sweep the cross-road. The tall man says that there are rifle-pits pretty much all along the Boydton plank road for the distance of five or six miles out of Petersburg, and I gather from what he says, extending more or less connectedly as far as Hatcher's Run.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, *September 28, 1864.*
(Received 9.10 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Heavy firing, both of artillery and musketry, is heard here distinctly. Does it mean anything like an attack?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 28, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The firing is apparently on the plank road. The musketry has ceased and the artillery slackened. No report has been received. I imagine it is a stampede. I have called on Hancock for particulars, which I will transmit as soon as received.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
September 28, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from the Forty-sixth North Carolina, Cooke's brigade, Heth's division, came into the lines of the Second Corps last night about 11 o'clock. There have been no late changes on their part of the line. Three deserters from the Fifty-ninth and Sixtieth Regiments, of Gracie's (Alabama) brigade, Johnson's division, came into the lines of the Second Army Corps last evening. They report that their division has not yet been relieved by Hoke, but would be at 9 o'clock this a. m.; was reported that Johnson's division was going to Early. Some men from Gracie's brigade went to the rear yesterday to take to the quartermaster some shells and other projectiles they had gathered, who is authorized to pay 8 cents per pound for cast iron, and 20

cents for lead. Informant states that the quartermaster told him he had not enough money to pay them, and went to borrow some, saying that they must have their money, as they would soon be sent to re-enforce Early. Some of informants think that Hoke's division has gone, but one says he saw the division yesterday, and it would relieve Johnson to-day at 9 a. m. A Mississippi brigade, which informant does not know, went to Early about five days ago; it had been lying in Petersburg.

NOTE.—This must be Humphreys' brigade, of Kershaw's division, which was reported to have been left behind.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
September 28, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from the Twelfth Virginia, Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division, came into our lines this a. m. in front of the Ninth Army Corps. He states that he has every reason to believe that two divisions have been sent to Early—Field's, of Longstreet's corps, and Hoke's division, of Beauregard's command—basing his belief on what he has heard by conversation in his brigade.

NOTE.—From the fact that Hoke's division was to have relieved Johnson's yesterday at 5 o'clock and did not, it seems probable it may have gone to Early. Field's division has been lying in reserve on the right—enemy's right.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
September 28, 1864. (Received 1 p. m.)

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Deserter from Sixth Virginia just in reports that Field's and Hoke's divisions have gone to Early, the latter yesterday. We have indications going to substantiate this. Will send you at once all information concerning this hereafter received.

J. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 28, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatches from signal station are respectfully forwarded:

PLANK ROAD STATION.

At 7.30 a. m. 1,200 infantry came from the woods in vicinity of the fort west of the Weldon railroad and moved toward our left on the line of the railroad. The enemy is working in small force on the line running to the left from the above-mentioned

fort. At 9 a. m. 500 infantry, in parties of 100, 180, and 220, came from the woods west of the Weldon railroad and disappeared, moving southward. Small working parties northwest of this station within range of our guns.

FULTON.

WALTHALL HOUSE—9 a. m.

The enemy has commenced a new work in the rear of Fort Clifton.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

FRIEND'S HOUSE SIGNAL STATION,
September 28, 1864—9 a. m.

Major FISHER:

A column of infantry has just moved into city at the cross-road going toward the right; nine minutes passing.

JORDAN.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 28, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: My lookout on station near the Friend house reports:

At 11 a. m. a body of about 200 cavalry passed out of the city of Petersburg at the cross-roads, moving southward toward the lead-works. At 1 p. m. a column of infantry passed into the city from the rear of Cemetery Hill, moving toward the right; it was ten minutes passing a point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 28, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch from the plank road station is respectfully forwarded:

At 2.40 p. m. about 1,800 infantry moved from the woods on the extreme left visible from this point and disappeared west of large fort.

I judge from the movements of this body of troops that they were either just relieved from the intrenchments or picket-line, or were returning from working upon some work not visible from our station, though they may be moving for some other object.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

FRIEND'S HOUSE STATION,
September 28, 1864—5 p. m.

Major FISHER:

Nothing new to report this evening. Small parties at work.

JORDAN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 28, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two batteries of artillery have moved toward Richmond, passing a point about one mile northwest of Petersburg; also a herd of cattle.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 28, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

All quiet this p. m. The following has been intercepted:

10 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

A train of cars just passed open space to our right of the Jordan house going toward City Point.

A.,
Sergeant.

(Same to A. B.)

12 M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

The enemy have covered some of their works in open space with brush, thinly. They are working on them. One regiment of cavalry drilling on Point of Rocks. Heavy dust seen from lower pontoon to the rear of Point of Rocks. Cavalry seen passing lower pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

4.45 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One regiment of infantry, followed by five wagons, passed open space going toward enemy's front in Petersburg. Fourteen ambulances passed military road going toward front in Chesterfield. One gun-boat above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 28, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Several batteries of artillery passed on the road toward Richmond this evening. The several lookouts report that movements of some character were taking place in the western edge of the city almost all the afternoon. Dust was constantly rising, but the cause could not be distinguished. Trains were passing at intervals through the entire afternoon in the direction of Richmond, as seen at several points upon the turnpike northwestward of the city of Petersburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 28, 1864.

The following dispositions and arrangements will be made:

1. The whole army will be under arms ready to move at 4 a. m. of the 29th instant, the men having four days' rations in the haversacks and sixty rounds of ammunition on the person. All trains and wagons will be hitched up, ready to move at the same hour, supply trains with the prescribed number of rations (six days'), and all the trains with forage to the extent of their capacity. All surplus supplies, after the trains have been loaded, will be removed at once from the depots to City Point.

2. Major-General Warren will be prepared to move with not less than two divisions of his corps, leaving the garrisons of Forts Wadsworth, Dushane, and Davison, and of the inclosed batteries, and a thin line between Fort Wadsworth and Fort Howard.

3. Major-General Parke will be prepared to leave the defense of the line between Fort Davis and Fort Howard to his Third Division and the garrisons of Fort Alexander Hays and Fort Howard. He will concentrate his First and Second Divisions and reserve artillery near the Gurley house ready for movement.

4. All corps commanders will hold in view the contingency of the withdrawal of their troops from the rifle-pits connecting the inclosed works, leaving the line from the Appomattox to Fort Davison to be held by the redoubts and inclosed batteries, and the further contingency of withdrawing entirely from the intrenchments.

5. Brigadier-General Gregg will concentrate his cavalry near Robertson's on the Weldon railroad, withdrawing his pickets and patrols east of the Weldon railroad, but making suitable dispositions to watch the plank road and toward Reams' Station.

6. The troops that move will take with them their intrenching tools, one-half their ambulances, and one medicine and one hospital wagon to each brigade, one-half the small-arm ammunition wagons and one-half the reserve ammunition wagons of the 12-pounder guns. The spring wagons and pack animals allowed for headquarters may also accompany the troops, but no supply trains, forage wagons, wagons for sales of stores to officers, baggage wagons, or sutlers' wagons will be permitted to accompany them.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 28, 1864—7.30 p. m.

The commanding general enjoins special vigilance and prompt report of any indications of movement on the part of the enemy to-night and to-morrow.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(To corps commanders.)

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 28, 1864.

The following dispositions and arrangements will be made:

1. The whole army will be under arms ready to move at 4 a. m. of the 29th instant (to-morrow morning), the men having four days' rations in the haversacks and sixty rounds of ammunition on the person. All trains and wagons will be hitched up, ready to move at the same hour, supply trains with the prescribed number of rations (six days'), and all trains with forage to the extent of their capacity. All surplus supplies, after the trains have been loaded, will be removed at once from the depots to City Point.

The foregoing is an extract from an order just issued. You will have your command under arms with their rations, their supply wagons loaded as directed, and be ready to move at 4 a. m You need not strike your camp unless you receive further orders. You have already been directed to send 400 rounds of rifled ammunition to Captain Harn at the Avery house. You will, in addition, send him at once six empty wagons to transport Captain Pratt's ammunition to Fort Morton. Let them report to Captain Harn as soon as possible.

By command of General Hunt:

JNO. N. CRAIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(To Capt. Calvin Shaffer, commanding Artillery Park.)

CITY POINT, *September 28, 1864—8.30 a. m.*
(Received 12.46 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

It becomes necessary for me to report that at midnight last night I received a copy of an order from General Heckman to Colonel Ripley, commanding parts of the two brigades recently sent to me by General Butler, to occupy Old Court-House and for other duties, which order directed Colonel Ripley to strike tents immediately and leave to join him before daylight. This leaves at Old Court-House but two regiments of new recruits, the Two hundredth and Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Regiments sent by General Butler within the last day or two, to guard that position and to perform the duties on the works called for by Major Michler and myself.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 28, 1864. (Sent 11.55 p. m.)

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, City Point:

The cavalry pickets will be withdrawn to-night. You might send out an advanced post.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 28, 1864.

Lieut. Col. T. S. BOWERS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., in the Field, Armies of the United States:

COLONEL: I have the honor to solicit your attention to the inclosed copy of an order published by Major-General Gibbon on the 30th ultimo, with my indorsement thereon, and to the printed orders of the major-general commanding the Army of the Potomac confirming and approving General Gibbon's order.* It will be seen that General Gibbon deprived three regiments of his division of the privilege of bearing colors (they having lost their colors at the battle of Reams' Station, August 25); that I approved of the principle, but requested that if it was adopted the rule might be made general, and affect other corps as well as my own; and, finally, that General Meade overruled my suggestion and singled these regiments—the Eighth New York Heavy Artillery, One hundred and sixty-fourth New York Volunteers, and Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers—to be published to the army as having rendered themselves unworthy to carry colors. This without regard to the fact that in the same action other regiments of my command lost colors, and that but a few days before several regiments of another corps had met with the same misfortune. Under the circumstances, I respectfully submit that these regiments have been proceeded against with unnecessary severity, and a slur cast upon the corps which I have the honor to command, which, in view of the past, might well be omitted. It is perhaps known to you that this corps never lost a gun or a color previous to this campaign, though oftener and more desperately engaged than any other corps in this army, or perhaps any other in the country. I have not the means of knowing exactly the number of guns or colors captured, but I saw myself nine in the hands of one division at Antietam, and the official reports show that thirty-four fell into the hands of the corps at Gettysburg. Before the opening of this campaign it had at least captured over half a hundred colors from the enemy, and never yielded one, though at the cost of 25,000 casualties. During the campaign you can judge how well the corps has performed its part. It has captured more guns and colors than all the army combined. Its reverses have not been many, and they began only when the corps had dissolved to a remnant of its former strength; after it had lost 25 brigade commanders, and over 125 regimental commanders, and over 20,000 men. I submit that with the record of this corps, that it is in the highest degree unjust by a retrospective order to publish a part of it as unworthy to bear colors. It is not necessary to speak more particularly as to the injustice done to these regiments, the principle discussed covering their case. I may say, however, that these

* See General Orders, No. 63, p. 595, and General Orders, No. 37, p. 981.

regiments first saw service in the field after the battle of Spotsylvania. At Cold Harbor the colonel of the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin, as gallant a soldier as ever lived, fell dead on the field, as did the colonel of the Eighth New York Heavy Artillery. The colonel of the One hundred and sixty-fourth New York fell mortally wounded beside his flag on the breast-works of the enemy. These regiments have since that action suffered severely, one of them at least having lost two commanding officers. I respectfully request that their colors may be returned to them. They are entitled to the same privileges as other regiments—that is, the right to strive to avoid the penalties of General Orders, No. 37, current series, headquarters Army of the Potomac.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 28, 1864. (Received 10 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

There has been no change in the disposition of troops in my command since last report. Five deserters came in during the night, but know of nothing important going on.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 28, 1864. (Sent 11.35 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The Second Division of the Ninth Corps, massed in rear of the Avery house, was moved this morning after daylight to the vicinity of the Gurley house.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 28, 1864. (Received 9.15 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

There is quite sharp musketry on the left—certainly as far to the left as Fort Hell—interspersed with artillery. The musketry seems too heavy for picket. It sounds like an attack on the picket-line.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 28, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

What is the musketry and artillery fire about?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 28, 1864. (Received 9.20 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

Some of the artillery firing is apparently further to the left than the plank road. I hear no musketry now. It is probable the picket-line has been driven in. I will soon learn.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 28, 1864. (Sent 11 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Have you any report of the cause of the musketry and artillery firing this evening? General Meade is waiting to hear from you to report to General Grant.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 28, 1864—11 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS:

The first infantry firing commenced about the right of the Ninth Corps picket and generally extended to the left. Some of our own was engaged, but their position not disturbed.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 28, 1864.

By direction of the commanding general of the army, this corps will be under arms and ready to move at 4 a. m. of the 29th instant, the men having four days' rations in haversack and sixty rounds of ammunition on the person. All trains and wagons will be hitched up ready to move at the same time, supply trains with the prescribed number of rations (six days'), and all trains with forage to the extent of their capacity. All surplus supplies, after the trains have been loaded, will be removed at once from the depots to City Point. Commanders will hold in view the contingency of the withdrawal of their troops from the rifle-pits connecting the inclosed works, leaving the line from the Appomattox to Fort Davis to be held by the redoubts and inclosed batteries, and the further contingency of withdrawing entirely from the intrenchments. The troops that move will take with them their intrenching tools, one-half their ambulances, and one medicine and one hospital wagon to each brigade, one-half the small-arm ammunition wagons, and one-half the reserve ammunition wagons of the 12-pounder guns. The spring-wagons and pack animals allowed for headquarters may also accompany the troops, but no supply trains, forage wagons, wagons for sales to officers, baggage wagons, or sutlers' wagons will be

permitted to accompany them. The hospitals will be broken up and the sick removed to City Point to-night. Commanders will see that no communication is permitted with the enemy to-night on the picket-lines.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 28, 1864. (Received 10.11 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual or important transpired in my front during yesterday or last night.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
September 28, 1864—11 a. m. (Received 11.12 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have just seen two deserters from Eighth Georgia Cavalry, who give important information about the enemy extending his intrenchments southwesterly from Petersburg. They were stationed at Poplar Spring Church. They are building works on Mr. Peebles' farm and how far south they do not know, and think there is a considerable infantry force in that direction, pretty thick, they say they are, and we would lose a good many men in getting them away. I send the men up at once.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 28, 1864—11.45 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I send up four contrabands from near Reams' Station and a negro woman who left Petersburg a week ago. She says all the rich people have been for three or four weeks moving to Richmond to get where there was less danger and more necessaries of life. They none of them know much of importance to us.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 28, 1864. (Sent 7.40 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Gregg is directed to make a demonstration upon the enemy's left, making a wide detour to the southwest. He will move from Robertson's, on the Weldon railroad, as soon after daylight to-morrow as practicable. Should he need infantry supports he will call on you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SEPTEMBER 28, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Captain Jay has just arrived with the order.* I have directed all my pickets to remain, as they can be drawn in as fast as needed in the morning. I have nearly 1,000 men on the south and west front that are not in contact with the enemy. Those on the north front about 500 strong, are in contact with the enemy or in view in places. It is not light enough to move in the morning before 5 a. m., except to the rear.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 28, 1864—9.40 p. m.

General WARREN:

The firing commenced on the left of the Second Corps, and was probably due to an attack on their picket-line; it did not extend to my front. The artillery seemed to take it up all along the right.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 138.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
September 28, 1864.

The troops that will be in readiness to move at 4 a. m. will be the batteries to be designated by Colonel Wainwright, the First Division, Second Division, and Hofmann's brigade, of Third Division. Pickets will not be withdrawn till further orders. All the other provisions of the above order* will at once be complied with by each division commander and the commander of the Artillery Brigade.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding instructs me to say that you can hold the line westward from Fort Howard with General Bragg's brigade, keeping Colonel Hofmann in reserve. If necessary, General Bragg's troops can form but one line only (rank).

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Orders, p. 1069.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
September 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Providence, R. I.:

You will please direct the return, without delay, to the Army of the Potomac of all your staff except the personal aides-de-camp.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 28, 1864—1 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that your Second Division, now encamped in rear of the Avery house, be moved to-morrow [this] morning, as soon after full daylight as practicable, to the vicinity of the Gurley house, and in such a manner as to attract the attention of the enemy.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The foregoing is by the direction of the commanding general respectfully submitted for your guidance. The dispatch fully explains itself, and the details are left to your own judgment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 28, 1864.

Brigade commanders will have their commands ready to move at daylight.

By command of Brigadier-General Potter:

SAML. WRIGHT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Let reveille be beaten in the morning with as much noise as possible.

S. W.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 28, 1864—9.30 a. m. (Received 10.15 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual transpired along my lines during the past twenty-four hours. If compatible with public interest, I would like to know whether the movement of the Second

Division to the vicinity of the Gurley house is permanent or merely temporary, in order that instructions may be issued in reference to camping the men.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 28, 1864. (Sent 11.15 a. m.)

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Will communicate with you during the day concerning the Second Division.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 28, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General PARKE:

General Hancock reports the heavy firing, artillery and infantry, about 9 p. m., was on your front. Please report what you know about it.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 28, 1864. (Sent 11.15 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The musketry firing this evening is said to have been from your pickets. What was the cause and result?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 28, 1864—11.50 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding:

After the musketry affair was over, I received the following report from General Ferrero, commanding Third Division:

I have the honor to report that the attack was made on the left of the Second Corps, and did not reach my line.

E. FERRERO,
Brigadier-General.

From my quarters all the artillery firing appeared from Fort Davis and works to the right. The musketry seemed to be about the junction of our pickets and those of the Second Corps. It was accompanied with slight cheering, and seemed an attack on our picket-line, but on receiving General Ferrero's report I made no further investigation. I will, however, send to him and learn if he has any further information from his line.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 28, 1864—12 m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I received yours and General Meade's dispatch about firing at the same time, and replied directly to him. General Ferrero has since reported that the firing was caused by relieving pickets, and did commence on his right. No casualties.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 99. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
September 28, 1864

The following assignments of batteries attached to this division are hereby made: Battery I, First U. S. Artillery, to the Second Brigade (Colonel Smith); Battery A, Second U. S. Artillery, to the First Brigade (Brigadier-General Davies).

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

H. C. WEIR,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
September 28, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Brig. Gen. H. E. DAVIES,
Commanding First Brigade, Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you at once concentrate your brigade and move it to the position now occupied by the Second Brigade on the plank road. Have issued to your command three days' rations and two days' forage from to-morrow morning. No wagons will accompany your command save one for your headquarters. All other wagons will be packed and sent to park with the division train. Have a full supply of ammunition issued to your command. As the division will move, the necessary ambulances and ammunition wagons will be in readiness at the headquarters. Remove everything from your present camp not required to comply with this order to the division wagon train.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 28, 1864.

Col. C. H. SMITH,
Commanding Second Brigade, Second Division, Cavalry:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you at once concentrate your brigade, withdrawing all your pickets and patrols east of the Weldon railroad, and be in readiness to move at 4 o'clock to-morrow morning. One regiment of your brigade will be posted on the plank road to watch that road, and in the direction of Reams' Station. Your regiments will be supplied with three days' subsistence and two days' forage, and the usual amount of ammunition. No wagons will be

allowed to accompany your brigade save one for your own headquarters. All other wagons will be packed and sent to the division train. No supplies of any character must be left in camp, but all the camps must be entirely broken up.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 28, 1864—1 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I see a pontoon train being towed up the river. Will it not attract attention and put the enemy on his guard?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 28, 1864—4 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Nothing has been said about troops at Dutch Gap. I expect all of them, except a small garrison for the fort, to join your forces.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
September 28, 1864—5 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The whole force save 150 men were withdrawn last night. The enemy have been shelling the empty place all day.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *September 28, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Make any change you please in garrisons below the Appomattox. I only intend to be understood that all points now garrisoned would continue to be garrisoned.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *September 28, 1864.*

Lieutenant DAVENPORT,
General Butler's Staff:

A deserter has come in this morning on the left of our line from the Sixth Virginia, who reports that Field's and Hoke's divisions have gone to Early. One of our men left Richmond yesterday about noon, up to which time there had been no movement of troops through the city. Please let me know as soon as you can verify the above or the contrary.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 115. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C., *In the Field, September 28, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. E. W. Smith, assistant adjutant-general, is hereby announced as assistant adjutant-general of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

By command of Major-General Butler:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
September 28, 1864—1.15 a. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding, &c.:

Are you moving to-night? At what time did the movement begin?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 28, 1864—1.35 a. m. (Received 1.49 a. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

I am not moving to-night. The arrangement, as I understood it, was that I should commence movement Wednesday to Bermuda. Please answer.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
September 28, 1864—1.45 a. m.

General BIRNEY:

You had better move to-night so as to have your troops fresh to-morrow to prepare for embarkation.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 28, 1864. (Received 2.20 a. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

Your dispatch received. I regret the misunderstanding, but it would, in my opinion, be too late to move to-night. I will, with your permission, not start until to-morrow evening, and will promise to not delay the boats at all. My preparations are all made for that time, and I can complete them without confusion then.

D. B. BIRNEY.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
[*September*] *28, 1864.*

General D. B. BIRNEY:

As you please; only give sufficient rest.

B. F. BUTLER.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
September 28, 1864—7 a. m. (Received 7.07 a. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY:

The enemy cannot see you as you cross the pontoon at Broadway, if you are out of their sight in the marsh. I do not know how it may be about the dust.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 28, 1864—10.20 a. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

I have ordered the First Maryland Cavalry to report back to you as infantry. It is impossible to mount them in season for operations. Their commanding officer will meet you at my headquarters this afternoon. How many of the Fourth Massachusetts can you possibly spare me? Do as well as you can.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MARCHING ORDERS. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 28, 1864.

This command will move promptly at 3 p. m. for Bermuda, crossing the Appomattox River at Broadway Landing, and keeping out of sight of the enemy by marching on the right-hand road. The following will be the order: the First, Second, and Third. Each command will take with it, in rear in wagons, fifty rounds of small-arm ammunition, besides fifty rounds on person. The Artillery Brigade will move during the day, halting in the open field beyond department headquarters, wherein Serrell's engineer battalion is encamped, waiting further orders. The general trains will move precisely at 9 p. m., halting for orders in the same field that the Artillery Brigade is ordered to halt. The medical director will order ten ambulances to report to the surgeon-in-chief of each division, to follow in its rear. All wagons accompanying the troops must, during the daytime, be stripped of covers. Enough has been said about straggling on former occasions, and rules laid down which, if enforced, will effectually prevent it. The troops should march light, and not be encumbered with useless clothing and articles, as upon reaching our destination transportation will be limited and the work quick and sharp. The subsistence and quartermaster's departments have received orders to load the trains with the usual supplies.

By command of Major-General Birney:

E. L. FORD,
Captain, Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 36. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, September 28, 1864.

Hereafter the commissaries or acting commissaries of subsistence of the brigades of this corps will, on the march or during active operations, accompany their commands. The division commissaries of sub-

sistence will remain with the supply trains of their divisions and will be held responsible that the wagons are loaded with the subsistence stores ordered, and that the stores are duly forwarded to the troops.

By command of Major-General Birney:

E. L. FORD,
Captain, Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCHING ORDERS. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Deep Bottom, Va., September 28, 1864.

The troops of this command will be in readiness to move to-morrow promptly at 4 a. m. Coffee should be partaken by the men before 3.30 a. m. The troops will move in light marching order, and each man will carry with him but one blanket. Knapsacks and overcoats must be left inside the fortifications at Deep Bottom under charge of the Two hundred and third Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, Colonel Moore commanding. No baggage wagons of any description will accompany the troops.

By command of Major-General Birney:

E. L. FORD,
Captain, Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 132. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., September 28, 1864.

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4. Maj. H. W. Camp, Tenth Connecticut Volunteers, is hereby assigned to duty as acting assistant adjutant-general, Third Brigade, and will report to Colonel Plaisted, commanding Third Brigade, immediately.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 28, 1864.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

Pursuant to the verbal directions and written instructions of the lieutenant-general commanding, the Army of the James is about to make a movement on the north side of the James River.

ITS OBJECT

Is to surprise the Confederate forces in our front here, and, passing them, to get possession of the city of Richmond. Failing that, to make such serious and determined demonstration to that end as shall draw re-enforcements from the right of the enemy's line in sufficient numbers so as to enable the Army of the Potomac to move upon the enemy's communication near Petersburg. The forces appropriated to this purpose are so much of the Army of the James as can be spared from the lines at Bermuda Hundred and the garrisoned posts on the river, the strength of which forces you know.

THE MANNER IN WHICH THE MOVEMENT IS TO BE MADE.

The acting chief of engineers will have caused, by 12 o'clock midnight of the 28th instant, a sufficient pontoon bridge, well covered to prevent noise, to be laid from the road on the south side of the James to a point near Varina or Aiken's Landing. The Eighteenth Army Corps, with the exception of the colored division at Deep Bottom, will move across that bridge and make an attack upon the enemy's line in the manner hereinafter to be detailed. At the same time the Tenth Corps will cross the pontoon bridge at Deep Bottom and make in like manner and at the same time demonstration in connection with the Third Division of the Eighteenth Corps from that point.

THE POSITION AND NUMBERS OF THE ENEMY.

As near as can be ascertained, the enemy hold a line of earth-works starting at a point at or near Cox's Ferry, at a station called by them Signal Hill, running thence easterly in the rear of Cox's overseer's house; from thence to a point in the rear of J. Aiken's house to the hill in rear of the point marked "New Market" on the map, across the Varina road, partially along the Kingsland road, which line, it is believed, terminates substantially as a continuous intrenched line at that point. Most of the line has abatis but no ditch. The troops holding that line, from all the information gathered, are Bushrod Johnson's (Tennessee) brigade, about 450 men for duty, with its pickets advanced beyond Cox's overseer's house toward Dutch Gap, holding the line nearly three-quarters of a mile beyond that point to a point near the Varina road, at a point about 300 yards to the west of which the line of breast-works terminates, to be resumed on the other side of road. The Twenty-fifth Virginia (City Battalion), numbering not to exceed 200 men for duty, are extended along the line toward Ruffin's house, in front of our position at Deep Bottom. They are there joined by Benning's old (Georgia) brigade, commanded by Colonel Du Bose, numbering about 400 men, who are extended along the line past Ruffin's house, the picket-line being near the house of J. Aiken. They are there joined by Gregg's (Texas) brigade, numbering about 400 men for duty, who extend along the line to a place called New Market, where the enemy have a pretty strong work on a height commanding the New Market road. These are all the infantry forces, except a battalion of militia reserves, numbering about 175 men for duty, who are in camp some distance to the rear, who form a connecting line between Johnson's brigade and the City Battalion. These reserves are composed of soldiers below the age of eighteen and above the age of forty-five; but they, with the City Battalion, have never been under fire. At the place marked on the map "Drill-Room" is stationed a regiment believed to be about 400 men, the Seventh South Carolina Cavalry. At the place marked "Sweeney's Pottery" Wade Hampton's Legion, numbering about 400 men, are stationed on the easterly side of Four-Mile Creek and Bailey's Run, apparently to guard the road by which General Hancock advanced over Strawberry Plains from below Four-Mile Creek, and picketing toward Malvern Hill. In the rear, at the intersection of the roads near the point marked "W. Throgmorton" is a regiment, the Twenty-fourth Virginia Cavalry, numbering about 400 men. On Chaffin's farm there is no garrison, except about 100 heavy artillerists, holding that place as an intrenched camp. It is also a camp for the sick and convalescents of the Virginia battalion. There are then no other troops between the

troops herein enumerated and Richmond, except an artillery company in each of the detached works of that class numbered 23 on the map, and the one at "Toll-Gate" and the "Race-Course." The continuous line of works shown on the map is wholly unoccupied. It will be seen, therefore, that these bodies of which we have knowledge, if the information is correct, should be 2,875 men, and it may be safely predicated that there are not 3,000 effective men outside of the limits of the city of Richmond on the north side of the river. It is upon this information, which is fully credited, that the movement is largely based.

THE MEANS OF RE-ENFORCEMENT BY THE ENEMY.

There are between the Appomattox and the James less than 3,500 men holding a line nearly ten miles in extent, and the nearest considerable body of Confederate troops are massed some seven miles still farther off below Petersburg. Most of the force between the Appomattox and the James is directly in the front of our lines and cannot be much depleted. Their means of crossing the river are by the pontoon bridge, one between the fortifications of Drewry's Bluff on the west and Chaffin's farm on the east of the James. These fortifications are about a mile apart, and have two or three barbette guns bearing on the bridge-heads. There is no other tête-de-pont. This is a pontoon bridge and is above fortifications at Chaffin's on the one side and below Drewry's on the other. These fortifications are about a mile apart. Next a trestle-work bridge, with schooners for a draw, at a point opposite the place of William Throgmorton at the mouth of Falling Creek Landing on the westerly side of the river at the southerly side of the mouth of the creek; again, a trestle bridge at a point opposite Colonel Knight's house, another trestle bridge nearly opposite the battery marked 23 on plan. These last three have no têtes-de-pont on the north side.

THE MANNER OF ATTACK.

A large element of the complete success of this movement depends upon its celerity and the co-operation in point of time of the several commands in the attack. It is proposed that Major-General Ord shall dispose one of the divisions of his corps in such positions as to mass them near Varina on the north bank during the night, silently, so as not to be observed by the enemy, and from thence just before daybreak, which is assumed to be 4.30 a. m., and that will govern in point of time, to make a sudden, sharp attack in column upon the enemy's lines nearly opposite his position upon the Varina road. At the same time General Birney, having massed such divisions as he chooses, or using the Third Division of the Eighteenth Corps, at Deep Bottom, for that purpose, for which it will temporarily report to him, will make a like attack, substantially at the point where he attacked before in the late essay across the James, and endeavor to carry the New Market road and the heights adjacent, if he cannot turn them to the left without too great loss. If successful, and as soon as the way can be opened, General Kautz's cavalry, having been massed near the pontoon bridge at Deep Bottom, and crossing while the attack is going on, will immediately push out, attempt to cross the New Market road, turning the enemy's forces and left flank, if possible, avoiding a fight as a preference, and attempt to reach the Central, or, as it is called in the country there, the Darbytown road. If successful in striking that road General Kautz is to make the utmost diligence

and celerity of marching up that road toward Richmond, or if he finds himself opposed in such manner as to render it advisable he will still farther flank to the right and strike the Charles City road, as both roads lead into the city within a mile of each other.

If General Ord is successful in passing the enemy's line in his front he is to move right on up the Varina road and endeavor to reach the intrenched camp at Chaffin's farm, and, if possible, to take it, and secure and destroy the pontoon crossing just above. Perhaps General Ord will find the better way to take the works at Chaffin's farm is to pass them by the Varina road, or turn them near the house of J. Aiken, and pass to the rear, as the demoralization of their defenders, if any get there from Johnson's command, will be greater when they find themselves cut off from Richmond. General Ord will observe that the Varina road runs within two miles of the river, and he may be annoyed by the enemy's gun-boats, but they would seem to amount to an annoyance only at that distance; yet an attempt to take the work would seem to be the most feasible from the northwest side of the salient extending in that direction, as there he will be entirely protected by the high bluff from the fire of the enemy's gun-boats. But much of this detail, of course, must be left to his discretion on the ground, which he is enjoined to use largely as to modes and places of attack. General Ord is expressly cautioned, however, to lose no time in attempting to envelop Chaffin's farm, but rather, if he can take the line of works extending across his path, to place what in his judgment may be a sufficient force, with orders to intrench, so as to hold the bridge, and with the rest of his forces to push up toward the New Market road, at the junction of which with the Varina road he will probably be met with some force, that being near the station of the cavalry. If Chaffin's farm can be taken a force should be detached to hold it, although it becomes of minor importance, except as a possible bridge-head for a new pontoon bridge to be thrown, brought from the Appomattox; but that is a question of time. Leaving sufficient force to protect his rear from the enemy, crossing after striking the New Market junction, at which point it is hoped he will be joined by General Birney, who will have proceeded up the New Market road, General Ord will move to the left and attempt to strike the Richmond and Osborne old turnpike, and also to detach a force and destroy or hold the bridge next above, and proceed onward up that road until its junction with the New Market road, at which point the only other force of the enemy is supposed to be found in the garrisons of the detached works. Again, an attempt should be made to destroy the bridges opposite Battery 23. If these bridges can be destroyed with reasonable celerity, there can be but little doubt of the complete success of the movement.

Meanwhile, General Birney will have moved by the New Market road up to the point of intersection, where it may be necessary to turn the works by a flank movement to the left in the direction marked on the map, "Cox," but that, like the other method of attack, must be left largely to the discretion of General Birney. As soon as possible after the advance has been made from Deep Bottom, whether the attack is made by the Third Division of the Eighteenth Corps or a division of the Tenth Corps, the Third Division, under General Paine, will have position upon the left of General Birney's column of march, so that when the junction is formed with General Ord that division may report to him, relieved from its temporary assignment to duty with the Tenth Corps.

The commanding general of the army will endeavor to keep himself in communication with the corps commanders, so as to afford any direction, advice, or assistance that may be in his power, and by being kept advised of the movements of the one and the other of the corps commanders, as well as the command of General Kautz, he may be thus enabled to secure more perfect co-operation than would otherwise be possible. If the movement is made with celerity; if the march is held uninterruptedly as much as possible, and if in the first attack the element of unity of time is observed, which has been greatly neglected in some of the movements of the army, we shall gain over the enemy, so far as any considerable re-enforcements are concerned, some eight to twelve hours, and perhaps more of valuable time, which ought not to be lost, and which should bring us far on our journey in the twelve miles which we are to go.

As the force of the enemy is so small, there will need be none of those delays for deployments which generally take so much time in movements on the enemy. If we are not mistaken in the force opposed to us, and if we are not we shall learn it very early, that force nor any other that may be got on that side of the river for six hours need give us no alarm or trouble; nor, indeed, when the two corps have joined, need we fear any force which the enemy, by possibility can detach from his army without abandoning his position on the right altogether, in which case we shall be likely to get re-enforcements nearly as early as he will. Upon approaching the detached works at Richmond, if we are fortunate enough to succeed so far, as they will be found to be some three-quarters of a mile apart, and not connected with rifle-pits, and as they are all open in the rear, a quick movement of a small column of troops between them will put them into the hands of the attacking party. Of course, receiving the fire of the heavy guns in position, which are manned by inexperienced artillerists, and are therefore far less destructive than light guns in the same position, getting between two of their works, so as to get into the rear, would open the gates of Richmond.

WHAT IS TO BE DONE IN RICHMOND.

Whatever division or other body of troops shall get into Richmond it will be their duty immediately, without waiting for parley or doing anything else, to proceed at once to the bridges across the James River, seizing upon inhabitants to guide them for that purpose, if necessary, and destroy them. Fire is the readiest way of destroying bridges such as these are—of wooden spans. As soon as that destruction has been accomplished, then, unless both columns and the cavalry column have reached the city, as large a body as can possibly be spared will be sent to open the way upon the road by which such tardy column is supposed to be advancing, by a sharp attack upon any enemy opposing in the rear. No large body of troops, it is believed, will be needed for this purpose, as the enemy, under such circumstances, would make no stand. In case a portion of the troops reach Richmond, and the troops holding either bridge-head below Richmond are attacked, they are to hold the ground as long as possible, having, the moment that they strike the point which they intend to hold, strengthened themselves by intrenchment as much as possible, for which reason the battalion of engineers has been ordered to report to Major-General Ord and will be well at the front, furnished with their intrenching tools. In case the troops guarding the bridges are forced

back they will retire upon the position held by our army, not allowing the enemy to get between them and the main body. In case any portion of the troops have reached Richmond, and those outside are attacked by a force of the enemy, which they are unable to resist, they will retire toward Richmond and not from it, it being intended, if the town is once reached, to hold it at all risks and at all hazards, and all commanders of divisions and others in advance are especially cautioned not to recognize or regard flags of truce, if any are sent, but, immediately receiving the bearer, to press on. It will be time enough to deal with flags of truce after the object of the expedition is accomplished.

DETAILS OF THE MARCH AND OF THE EQUIPMENT OF THE TROOPS.

As so much depends upon the celerity of movement, and the distance over which we are to move is so short, the troops will leave everything except a single blanket rolled over their shoulders and haversack with three days' cooked rations and sixty rounds of cartridges in their cartridge-boxes and on their persons. All tents, camping equipage, and cooking utensils are to be left behind. No wagon will be allowed to cross the river without orders from these headquarters. The wagon trains, however, will be supplied with six days' rations and half-forage for the same time and forty rounds of extra ammunition per man, ready to start as soon as ordered. As this movement will necessarily be a failure if it degenerates into an artillery duel, there is no necessity for any artillery to cross until after the attempt to carry the first line of works, and then only such batteries as have been designated in the conversation between the commanding general and his corps commanders.

The two batteries of horse artillery reporting to General Kautz will cross and travel with him. Ambulances will be parked near the southern head of each pontoon bridge ready to be used when occasion requires. Hospital boats will be at Deep Bottom for the purpose of receiving any wounded. General Kautz will take with him three days' cooked rations per man and what forage he can conveniently carry. Assuming that he is better mounted than the enemy's cavalry, and fresh, he will have no difficulty in case it should be necessary to cut loose from the infantry column and circle the city as far as may be necessary, remembering always that celerity of movement in cavalry, in a far greater degree than infantry, is the principal means of success.

The commanding general cannot refrain in closing these instructions from pressing one or two points upon the attention of corps commanders: First, the necessity of being ready to move and moving at the moment designated; second, the fact that the commanding general is under no substantial mistake in regard to the force to be at first encountered, and therefore there is no necessity of time spent in reconnoitering or taking special care of the flanks of the moving columns. The commanding general would also recommend to the corps commanders, as soon as it may be done with safety from discovering the movement, to impress upon each of the division commanders, with directions for them to transmit the information through their subordinates even to the privates, of the number and kind of troops we are required to meet, so there may be no panic from supposed flanking movements of the enemy or attacks in the rear, always a source of demoralization when the troops do not understand the force of the enemy. Let us assure and instruct our men that we are able to fight anything we will find either in front or flank or rear, wherever they may happen to be.

Lastly, the commanding general will recommend for promotion to the next higher grade the brigadier-general commanding division, colonel commanding brigade, and so down to all officers and soldiers of the leading division, brigade, or regiment which first enters Richmond, and he doubts not that his recommendation will be approved by the lieutenant-general, and acted upon by the President, and if Richmond is taken he will pledge to the division, brigade, or regiment first entering the city, to each officer and man six months' extra pay. While making this offer so general to officers and men, the commanding general desires to say that he has not included the major-generals commanding corps because he knows of no incentive which could cause them to do their duty with more promptness and efficiency than they will do it.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Copies to Major-General Birney, commanding Tenth Corps, and Brigadier-General Kautz, commanding division of cavalry.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 28, 1864.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

You will make arrangements for holding your line between the Appomattox and the James with the Provisional Brigade. I have taken from it only two battalions, which you report unfit for field duty, and shall add a regiment to your moving column instead. You can move them at such time during the day, and supply their place, in such manner as you see fit, with your Provisional Brigade and such other troops as you may deem necessary. You can move them at any time during the day. Their exhibition on your line can do you no harm; indeed, a little parade of them might aid.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 28, 1864—10 a. m. (Received 10.26 a. m.)

Brigadier-General PAINE,
Commanding at Deep Bottom:

Of course, you will use your discretion as to what troops you will leave behind that you think are not fit for service. The two regiments at Pocahontas and Harrison's Landing will be with you in the course of the day. General Birney will have a new regiment, which he will probably leave in your works.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General MARSTON,
Commanding at Fort Pocahontas:

You will send with the utmost possible dispatch the two colored regiments to Deep Bottom to report to General Paine. They will not stop

at City Point, but proceed directly up the river. You will send the Eighty-ninth New York to the wharf this side of the pontoon bridge, near the Point of Rocks. You will garrison your post with the forces that are left. Please send me any information you may have received during the day, even if it requires a special boat.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT POCAHONTAS, VA., *September 28, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

At the earliest possible moment I sent to recall the expedition sent out yesterday morning beyond the Chickahominy. It has not yet returned, nor have I received any message from you as I expected to do. I have no water transportation here to move artillery or cavalry, and not daring to wait longer have sent forward the colored regiments and the Eighty-ninth New York, agreeable to the orders received last evening.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GILMAN MARSTON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 28, 1864.

Colonel POTTER,
Commanding Provisional Brigade:

You will send two of your best companies to Bermuda Hundred, under a major, to relieve the Fortieth Massachusetts. Let it be done at once.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding Corps.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 28, 1864.

The commander of the Fortieth Massachusetts, on duty at Bermuda Hundred, will, with his regiment, report as soon as relieved to Colonel Potter at these headquarters.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Fort Pocahontas, Va., September 28, 1864.

Major LEWIS,
Eighty-ninth New York Volunteers:

MAJOR: You will immediately embark your regiment on board the steamer Ella and proceed forthwith to Bermuda Hundred and report to the headquarters of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

Any surplus arms you may have on hand you will take along with you to Bermuda Hundred and turn them over to the ordnance officer at that place. Surplus ammunition will be turned over to the commanding officer of the Thirty-eighth New Jersey Volunteers.

By command of Brigadier-General Marston:

J. E. FULLONTON,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Fort Pocahontas, Va., September 28, 1864.

Major LEWIS,
Eighty-ninth New York:

MAJOR: Agreeably to orders just received from Major-General Butler, you will, instead of landing at Bermuda Hundred, proceed up the Appomattox and disembark at Broadway Landing, near the pontoon bridge.

By command of Brig. Gen. G. Marston:

J. E. FULLONTON,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: I find it impossible to equip and mount the First Maryland Cavalry in season. Therefore, I have ordered them to report back to Major-General Birney.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *September 29, 1864—9.40 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

I hope it will lay no constraint on you, nor do harm anyway, for me to say I am a little afraid lest Lee sends re-enforcements to Early, and thus enables him to turn upon Sheridan.

A. LINCOLN.

DEEP BOTTOM, *September 29, 1864—1.40 p. m.*
(Received 3.30 p. m.)

President A. LINCOLN:

Your dispatch just received. I am taking steps to prevent Lee sending re-enforcements to Early by attacking him here. Our advance is now within six miles of Richmond and have captured some very strong inclosed forts, some fifteen or more pieces of artillery and sev-

eral hundred prisoners. Although I have been at the front, I can give no estimate of our losses. About 600 wounded men, however, have been brought in.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CHAFFIN'S FARM, *September 29, 1864—10.45 a. m.*
(Received 12.55 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

General Ord's corps advanced this morning and carried the very strong fortifications and long line of intrenchments below Chaffin's farm, with some 15 pieces of artillery and from 200 to 300 prisoners. General Ord was wounded in the leg, though not dangerously. General Birney advanced at the same time from Deep Bottom, and carried the New Market road and intrenchments and scattered the enemy in every direction, though he captured but few. He is now pushing on toward Richmond. I left General Birney where the Mill road intersects the New Market and Richmond roads. The whole country is filled with field fortifications thus far.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

DEEP BOTTOM, *September 29, 1864—4 p. m.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

Kautz's cavalry was in sight of Richmond at last accounts, on the Darbytown road. A division of infantry has been sent to his support. I did not expect to carry Richmond, but was in hopes of causing the enemy so to weaken the garrison of Petersburg as to be able to carry that place. The great object, however, is to prevent the enemy sending re-enforcements to Early.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 29, 1864—9.30 a. m. (Sent 10.35 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Deep Bottom:

Warren reports four regiments infantry (rebel) moving down Squirrel Level road. Gregg has sent commands toward Reams' Station, and is moving on the Wyatt road, feeling for the enemy's left. Signal officers report the enemy having struck their camps in the vicinity of the lead-works, but no movement perceptible.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

The operator will inquire whether General Grant has left City Point.

ENEMY'S FIRST LINE, *September 29, 1864—9.30 a. m.*
(Received 10.35 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

We are now on enemy's first line. General Ord has carried Chaffin's farm. Our lines still advancing.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

O. E. BABCOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 29, 1864—12 m.

General U. S. GRANT:

The following dispatch has just been received from Major Fisher, chief signal officer:

STATION NEAR FRIEND'S HOUSE,
September 29, 1864—11.40 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

A column of troops numbering about 2,000 has just passed toward Richmond on a side road along the Richmond turnpike. Trains were moving upon the turnpike at the same time, and are still moving. At present a well closed up column is entering Petersburg at the cross-roads. There were at least 4,000 in this column; I did not see the head of it.

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

General Meade has gone to General Warren's headquarters.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

IN THE FIELD,
Junction of Varina and New Market Roads,
[September 29, 1864]—12.15 p. m.

General MEADE:

Signal officer reports train of sixteen cars, heavily loaded with troops, from Petersburg to Richmond.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

DEEP BOTTOM, *September 29, 1864—1.30 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Re-enforcements are beginning to come from Petersburg. I doubt whether it will be advisable for you to make any advance this evening, but this I leave to your judgment. The works carried this morning are very formidable, equal to Warren's inclosed works. One that I was in had two 8 or 9 inch columbiads and a number of small rifle guns, besides one 100-pounder Parrott. Since writing the above I have received reports of large forces moving from Petersburg toward Richmond. If this continues it may be well for you to attack this evening.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Gregg has been out in a westerly and southwesterly direction, and on each road has found the enemy in force. A reconnaissance in Ferrero's front between the Jerusalem plank road and Strong house found the enemy's works occupied in force. Signal officers report no movement or change in the enemy in our front. Under these circumstances, I take it the troops seen going to Richmond are Hoke's division, which was in reserve on the enemy's left. I shall not therefore make a movement to the left to-day, as it would hardly amount to anything, it being now so late. I have, however, sent a brigade of infantry to reconnoiter at Poplar Spring Church, where the enemy are reported intrenched. I have also sent out parties to hunt for road, and shall be prepared to advance at daylight to-morrow. We are all delighted to hear of the brilliant success of the movements to-day.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 29, 1864—3.55 p. m. (Sent 4.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The following has just been received from the chief signal officer:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 29, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

In addition to the troops reported moving in and out of Petersburg, a body of about 1,000 infantry and 200 cavalry moved southward from Petersburg about 1 p. m. At 3.30 p. m. a column of about 3,000 infantry moved toward Richmond on a road about one mile northwest from Petersburg.

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 29, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

The following is forwarded for your information:

5 P. M.

Two batteries of artillery have moved toward Richmond, passing a point about one mile northwest of Petersburg, also a herd of cattle.

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 29, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Following sent for your information:

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Several batteries of artillery passed on the road toward Richmond this evening. The several lookouts report that movements of some character were taking place in the western edge of the city almost all the afternoon. Dust was constantly rising, but the cause could not be distinguished. Trains were passing at intervals through the entire afternoon in the direction of Richmond, as seen at several points upon the turnpike northwestward of the city of Petersburg.

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

S. WILLIAMS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 29, 1864—10.30 p. m. (Sent 11.15 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Gregg after his reconnaissance returned to Colonel Wyatt's, where, about 4 p. m., he was attacked by Hampton, with whom he had quite a sharp affair till dark, having one piece of artillery disabled; casualties not great. A brigade of infantry was sent to his support, but was not engaged. The infantry brigade sent to Poplar Spring Church found the enemy in position and in force, their artillery commanding the road leading westward from the church. Hancock reports the enemy moving on the road from Petersburg to Port Walthall, threatening our right on the Appomattox. My signal officer reports that not over 7,000 infantry have been observed moving toward Richmond, and that nearly 5,000 have moved to our left. I do not see indications sufficient to justify my making an attempt on the South Side Railroad. I find I can only raise 16,000 men in the four divisions of the Fifth and Ninth Corps, whereas when I took the Weldon railroad I had six divisions of these two corps, and afterward two divisions of the Second Corps. I can throw a force out to Poplar Spring Church, and engage the enemy, if you deem advisable, but this will only be extending our lines without a commensurate object, unless the engaging the enemy is so deemed.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 29, 1864—11.30 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

You need not move out at daylight in the morning, but be prepared to start at, say, 8 o'clock, if you find the enemy still further reduced, or if ordered. I will start up to Deep Bottom at 5 a. m., and may be able to judge of the force sent to the north side by the enemy. When you do move out I think it will be advisable to maneuver to get a good position from which to attack, and then if the enemy is routed follow him into Petersburg, or where circumstances seem to direct. I do not think it advisable to try to extend our line to the South Side road, unless a very considerable part of the enemy is drawn across the James, and then only when we are able to withdraw Butler's force rapidly and send it to you.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864. (Received 7.15 p. m.)

General MEADE:

A third train of seventeen cars, loaded with troops, is reported going toward Richmond, and an empty train of twenty-six going back.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 29, 1864—5.45 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

The troops behind the works between the lead-works and large fort west of the Weldon railroad have taken down their tents, but have not yet made any movement. All quiet; no change at other points of their line.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 29, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The station at the Walthall house reports:

A camp of infantry west of the town (Petersburg) and distant from it about one mile, containing about three regiments, has disappeared since last evening. Enemy still working on new fort near Fort Clifton.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

STATION NEAR FRIEND'S HOUSE,
September 29, 1864—7.15 a. m.

Major FISHER:

No visible change this a. m. Cannot see movement of any nature.

JORDAN,
Sergeant.

FRIEND'S HOUSE, *September 29, 1864—12.30 p. m.*

Major FISHER,
Signal Officer:

A column of about 1,000 infantry and 200 cavalry just came in at cross-roads and moved west of city.

JORDAN,
Sergeant.

NEAR FRIEND'S HOUSE, *September 29, 1864—1 p. m.*

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Another column of infantry has just passed over same road and in same direction as those last reported; were fifteen minutes in passing; two pieces of artillery were with the column.

JORDAN.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 29, 1864. (Sent 3.50 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following dispatches:

PLANK ROAD—12.25 p. m.

A column of infantry (six regiments) and a battery of artillery moved toward Petersburg on the Weldon railroad. They first appeared from the woods on the right of the large fort and west of the railroad. More than the usual stir of footmen and mounted men on road leading westward from large fort within the past two hours.

STATION NEAR FRIEND'S HOUSE.

A column of infantry moved out of Petersburg at 1 p. m., coming toward their right in the rear of Cemetery Hill. It was upon the same road upon which the column moved into the city at 11.40 this morning and numbered about as many men, but was moving in the opposite direction. I think it to be the same body of troops. Since then one regiment moved into the city and shortly afterward a similar number returned toward their right, passing out of sight in the rear of Cemetery Hill.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

STATION NEAR GIBBONS' HOUSE,
September 29, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

I have reported column of troops moving toward rear of Cemetery Hill. It is moving on same road as column while you were here, but in precisely opposite direction. It is about same size column as one you saw moving to right and I think it is the same, since one regiment has moved into town to right, and soon after same, or similar, returned over same road to left.

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant.

STATION NEAR FRIEND'S HOUSE,
September 29, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Major FISHER:

About 600 infantry moved from city out at cross-roads toward rear of Cemetery Hill. Heavy dust all along west of city; think it moves to our left.

JORDAN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Captain Thickstun, at the Avery house, reports that at 3.15 this p. m. about 3,000 enemy's infantry passed on the north side of Petersburg toward our right, having apparently gone from this side of the river above the city; at 3.45 about 2,000 more passed, with battery of artillery; 4 o'clock, forty-four wagons and ambulances passed.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

STATION NEAR FRIEND'S HOUSE,
September 29, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major FISHER:

Enemy's wagon trains moving north on Richmond pike almost continuously this p. m. A small ambulance train just moved south into city on same road. Dust still heavy south and west of city.

JORDAN.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
Signal Station, September 29, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major FISHER:

Sergeant Holman reports four regiments of infantry have just passed open space on Richmond road, going to our right; and Captain Thickstun reports that forty-four wagons, a herd of cattle, and three batteries have passed since his last report.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 29, 1864—5 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

This evening, as soon as practicable, make out a report of all the statements of the signal officers respecting the movements of troops today, giving the hours at which seen and the stations from which the report was received.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SEPTEMBER 29, 1864—5 p. m.

Major FISHER:

Two or three thousand infantry, thirty wagons, a herd of cattle, and three batteries have passed since last report.

I. S. LYON,
Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 29, 1864. (Sent 5.15 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: In addition to the column of about 3,000 infantry reported moving toward Richmond on road northwest of Petersburg, about 2,000 passed on the same road and direction at 4 p. m.; also forty-four wagons and ambulances.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
September 29, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

An infantry camp, containing about one regiment, to our left of the lead-works and about half a mile from it, has disappeared. The following have been intercepted:

9 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One regiment of infantry and seventeen wagons passed open space going toward Bermuda Hundred. One gun-boat above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

3 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

The enemy are pitching a camp to our left of Cobb's.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

5.45 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

The enemy have pitched tents in the works in open space to our left of Cobb's. They are building winter quarters on Mr. Gilliam's farm. Two gun-boats above pontoon.

S.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

Very respectfully,

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
September 29, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch from the plank road station is respectfully forwarded:

6.30 P. M.

At sunset a column of infantry commenced passing in front of large fort near Weldon railroad bearing to the right, our right; also a battery of artillery. They first appeared coming from the woods on the right of the fort, and were only visible

whilst passing in front of the fort; were about twenty-five minutes in passing. A train of wagons and ambulances accompanied them. No change at other points of enemy's line seen from this point. The tents reported taken down this morning were not again put up, and the troops at that point joined the column reported at 2.25 p. m. as moving toward Petersburg.

It is doubtful which way this column moved. They could as readily have turned southward around the fort mentioned and then taken the Squirrel Level road, or continued down along the railroad, as to have taken the road toward Petersburg. I have sent for further information. Other columns coming from the same location have heretofore moved around the fort as above stated.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

FORT DAVIS, *September 29, 1864.*

[Major FISHER:]

The column of troops and train of ambulances and wagons mentioned in last report were apparently moving to the right, our right, in report "bearing to the right." They could only be seen whilst passing in front of the large fort, as they disappeared in the woods immediately after passing the northeast corner of the fort, and were not visible again on the road leading to Petersburg. They were moving slowly, and the column appeared to be well closed up, although it could not be seen distinctly on account of the smoke and darkness. There were more ambulances than wagons in the train, twenty-five or thirty in all, which moved with the column, but moved faster.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

CITY POINT, *September 29, 1864.*
(Received 8.45 a. m.)

General A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Your dispatch received. I shall at once send out thirty men to Birchett's, one mile and a half east of Bailey's Creek crossing, and an equal force the same distance south on the Prince George Court-House road, but they may risk capture by cavalry, as I have not a mounted man to send out. Will you please apprise me what force, if any, on these roads will connect these pickets with your lines.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 29, 1864. (Sent 9.18 a. m.)

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, City Point:

The parties you have sent out in advance will not be exposed to anything but guerrillas, who will scarcely venture so far in. You cannot make any connection with the pickets of the army.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864. (Received 6.45 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

The enemy made an attack with 200 or 300 men on left of picket-line First Division last night, but accomplished nothing but the capture of one man, who afterward escaped. One man of Twenty-eighth Massachusetts deserted to the enemy this morning. He cannot know much, except as to issue of ammunition, &c. The First Division picket heard infantry and artillery moving in the night, but were unable to ascertain the nature of the movement. General Mott, Third Division, thought last night that the enemy had taken up their second line in his front, holding their first with a thin line, but could not ascertain anything definite. He could see one gun in the large fort immediately in front of Fort Sedgwick.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Forwarded to General Grant.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864. (Received 7.10 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

A deserter from Twenty-seventh North Carolina came into my line at the Norfolk railroad this morning. He has been in only four weeks and knows nothing whatever, except that his regiment is in the rifle-pits.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864—3.40 p. m. (Received 4 p. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

The enemy are reported as forming a line behind the fort opposite Fort Stedman. The information comes from Colonel Lynch, commanding brigade of First Division. The information is not sufficiently definite to give me much apprehension of an attack. I am having the matter examined.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864—8.16 p. m. (Received 8.50 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

This report just received from General Miles, but it fails to state the hour; supposed to be the same troops reported from the signal station:

FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

Major BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that some maneuvering by the enemy—parties, ranging from a regiment to a brigade—having been observed during the day, I have strengthened the front line of my left brigade with about 125 men, and my center brigade with about 450 men.

N. A. MILES,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—I inclose a communication just received from Colonel Lynch, First Brigade. Captain Ricker, the officer mentioned in it, observed the enemy moving apparently to our left, before he left the line of works, going down the river two or three miles. He observed the heavy column mentioned in the dispatch as moving to our right. He made his observation from the Mills house, where a good view was observed. I recommend that a signal station be established there in the morning. I consider it evident that the movements to our left observed to-day were intended to mislead us, and that they are now moving a considerable force to our right.

Respectfully,

N. A. MILES,
Brigadier-General.

[Inclosure.]

FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864—6.45 p. m.

Captain DRIVER:

Captain Ricker, of my staff, reports having seen, from the lookout near the Mills house, a heavy column of the enemy's infantry moving on the road from Petersburg to Port Walthall toward our right. He watched the column for fifteen minutes where it showed in an open space, both ends being concealed in the woods.

JAMES C. LYNCH,
Colonel, Commanding.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

Brigadier-General MILES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that he understands you desire a battery in a certain place. There is but one reserve battery, but in case you are attacked to-night it will be placed in the position you desire.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major, Judge-Advocate and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

FRIEND HOUSE SIGNAL STATION,
September 29, 1864—10.45 p. m.

General HANCOCK:

Some picket and artillery firing on both sides. No attack. All quiet.

MILES,
General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

Brigade commanders will impress on the minds of their men on picket to-night the necessity of the utmost vigilance. Any sign of movement on the part of the enemy will be promptly reported to these headquarters, and one-half of their command will be constantly awake during the night and kept under arms.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

Division commanders and the commander of the Artillery Brigade are directed to have all the troops of their command under arms at 4 a. m. to-morrow, the 30th instant.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

Division commanders and commander of the Artillery Brigade, together with subordinate commanders, are permitted to pitch their tents. The circular relative to the troops being under arms at 4 a. m. will be considered as still in force, but the tents of commanders need not be struck until further orders.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major, Judge-Advocate and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

Maj. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that during the day very little firing occurred on the line. Two or three of the enemy's working parties were opened on, compelling them to stop work. About 8.30 p. m. the enemy's picket-line on the left opened a heavy fire which soon ceased. The enemy then opened with artillery along nearly the whole line, which was vigorously returned. The Chesterfield battery fired a few good shots into Fort McGilvery, Battery 7, and Battery 6. At about 9 p. m. the enemy advanced their skirmish line in front of Lieutenant Dauchy's (Twelfth New York) battery. He opened with canister and shell and the line retired. Casualties, one man of the Eleventh New York Battery killed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HALIFAX ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 29, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

At 6.45 a. m. four regiments of infantry, numbering in all about 1,000 men, passed the W. Davis house, on the Squirrel Level road, moving southward. No unusual activity in the enemy's works on plank road west of the toll-gate.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, Signal Corps.

(Forwarded to General Humphreys.)

SEPTEMBER 29, 1864—4.30 p. m.

[Colonel MORGAN,
Chief of Staff:]

COLONEL: The Tree Station, near Friend's house, reports that enemy's wagon trains have been moving north on Richmond pike almost continuously this p. m. Small ambulance train just moved south into city on same road. Dust still heavy south and west of city.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

SEPTEMBER 29, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Colonel MORGAN,
Chief of Staff:

Signal station at Walthall house reports that four regiments of infantry have just passed open space on Richmond road going to our right. Captain Thickstun reports that forty-four wagons, a herd of cattle, and three batteries have passed since his last report.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864—8.20 p. m. (Received 8.25 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

Two deserters have just come in from Lane's brigade. They left their camp this morning. At that time it was understood that Lane's and Scales' brigades were to be withdrawn north of Petersburg. They did not know what for. McLaws' division, they say, left about eight days ago.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 43. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *September 29, 1864.*

I. The entire command will be prepared to move precisely at 5.30 a. m. to-morrow, 30th instant.

II. General Griffin will withdraw all his pickets south of the road leading to Poplar Spring Church. All his other pickets and those of General Ayres and General Crawford will remain.

III. General Griffin will have the advance, to be followed by General Ayres. Colonel Hofmann's brigade will accompany General Ayres' division. No guards will be left in the camps. The wagons will be parked between corps headquarters and the Gurley house. One battery will follow General Griffin's division, the remainder will follow the corps.

IV. All the pioneers of the corps will be at these headquarters at 5.30 a. m. No wagons of any description (ambulances and ordnance wagons included) will accompany the column. The movement will determine very soon whether or not the wagons, &c., will be needed. They can then be sent for.

V. Brigadier-General Crawford will be left in command of the troops in this locality and will make his headquarters at this house.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864—1.45 p. m.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The probabilities are that we may have to move very soon. You will withdraw all your pickets east of the railroad and direct them to join their commands. Our operations on the north side of the James River are succeeding, and the enemy is moving troops from Petersburg to Richmond.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: Brigadier-General Baxter's brigade is to be detached to make a reconnaissance out toward Poplar Spring Church. Inform your brigade commander nearest the fort on the left of this movement, so that he can be prepared to defend the fort, if necessary, but which is not at all probable. No one need be put into the fort until needed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

Lieut. Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:

COLONEL: General Orders, No. 43, have been received. Paragraph 2 is so indefinite that I cannot understand to what extent I am to withdraw my pickets, for I do not know where Poplar Spring Church is. General Ayres connects with the right of my line, which rests at the Flowers house and extends one mile and a half to the left to the railroad on the line designated by General Warren. What portion of this line do I relieve?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: In reply to your communication just received, I have the honor to state that the portion of your picket-line to be withdrawn is that south of a line running due west from Fort Dushane and intersecting the picket-line in that direction.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., 5TH ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

This command will be in readiness to move at 5.30 a. m. to-morrow. All wagons will be loaded and parked between the Gurley house and corps headquarters. All the pioneers will report at corps headquarters at 5 a. m. The troops will be awakened at 4.30 a. m. and have breakfast. The line will be formed on the road leading past these headquarters at 5.20 a. m., as follows—first, Sixth and Second Wisconsin Volunteers; second, Seventh Wisconsin Volunteers; third, Nineteenth Indiana Volunteers; fourth, Twenty-fourth Michigan Volunteers; fifth, One hundred and forty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers; sixth, One hundred and fiftieth Pennsylvania Volunteers; seventh, One hundred and forty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers. The sharpshooters will report at these headquarters at 5.20 a. m. The pickets will not be withdrawn.

By command of Brigadier-General Bragg:

E. A. ANDREWS,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864—11 a. m. (Received 11.35 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual transpired along my lines during the past twenty-four hours, excepting the firing on the picket-line at about 9 last evening. It occurred about the time of relieving pickets, and doubtless the new troops of the Third Division fired a great deal more than would have been done by old troops. As one of the brigades of the Second Division had moved in plain view in the morning close in rear of the main line at the plank road the enemy were probably feeling our lines in that vicinity. There were no casualties and the line has been unusually quiet there since.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Camp near Jones' House, September 29, 1864. (Received 12 m.)

Captain YOUNGMAN:

I have the honor to report that I sent out a small party this morning in front of the First Brigade with a staff officer. He reports having approached to within 262 yards of the enemy's works and could see but

five men; appeared to be cavalry, as they had no arms, and horses were picketed in their vicinity. The pits in front of works unoccupied. He was able to see about half a mile of their work and only the five men on the line.

EDWD. FERRERO,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

General PARKE:

I have the honor to report that I made a reconnaissance in force with Twenty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops, 750 strong; discovered their main line in rear of the one seen by the officer this morning. They have a strong line of works, with two forts plainly visible from the point reached by my force, filled with troops. Did not advance, not deeming it advisable. Have returned to camp.

EDWD. FERRERO.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 29, 1864—7 a. m. (Received 8.15 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I am moving on the Wyatt road hoping to find some cross-road by which I can get to the Vaughan road and across to the Rowanty Creek. I have sent a force to dash upon Reams' Station to drive off or capture what is there. If I cannot find a road to the Rowanty I will demonstrate toward Poplar Spring Church or wherever I find the enemy.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 29, 1864—8.30 a. m. (Sent 9.05 a. m.)

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry on the Wyatt Road:
(Through Fifth Corps Headquarters.)

Your dispatch of 7 a. m. just received. Probably you may not be able to pass out on the Poplar Spring Church road beyond the Squirrel Level road as the enemy have rifle-pits there across Peebles' field and a battery under cover. If you do not move on the roads leading southwest from the Vaughan road you may find cross-roads or get across the country south of the Poplar Spring road.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 29, 1864—9.30 a. m. (Received 1 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

A citizen reports General Hampton reviewing his cavalry to-day about three miles west of Reams' Station. Drove the enemy's cavalry

beyond Reams' Station a mile, then found his force strong; have driven cavalry pickets to the Vaughan road near Wilkinson's. Will cross a force there toward the Boydton road.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 29, 1864—10.45 a. m. (Received 12.05 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

On the Vaughan road beyond Wilkinson's and toward the Boydton road the enemy's cavalry offer considerable opposition to our advance. The country is very wooded, making it easy for a very inferior force to detain us. I do not get much information from prisoners, as they are generally strangers in these parts.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 29, 1864—12.12 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

My advance at Armstrong's, near Hatcher's Run, destroyed the telegraph line from Petersburg to Stony Creek, chopping down the poles, &c. Where the Vaughan road crosses Hatcher's Run is a camp of 500 dismounted cavalry; these furnish reserves for the mounted cavalry. A brigade of mounted cavalry was met at the same point, and the force increasing. A strong effort is being made to reach the road (plank), but I do not think we will reach it, having tried as much as possible. I will withdraw to Wyatt's and try the enemy toward Poplar Spring M[eeting] H[ouse].

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army.

A few prisoners captured from the dismounted cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 29, 1864—1.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

My advance reached the intersection of works near Miss Pegram's; there learned of a force of infantry half a mile beyond that, I presume at Peebles'. The presence of a large force in rifle-pits at the crossing of Hatcher's prevented a sufficient force from being detached to push beyond Miss Pegram's. The presence of the infantry also made it impracticable. The road leading from Wyatt's to Poplar Spring Church is heavily barricaded and picketed. I have withdrawn my force to the vicinity of Wyatt's, and do not think any further results can be produced in this direction.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The force mentioned on the south side of Hatcher's Run, where the telegraph road crosses it, is that of dismounted cavalry, as reported by prisoners captured; cavalry that have no horses at all. No line of intrenchment was seen about Miss Pegram's. Some cavalry still in my front and some firing on the Dinwiddie road toward Reams' Station, where I have a regiment.

Respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army.

The telegraph line on the road by Armstrong's was completed three or four days ago. Mr. Armstrong says that at times there is considerable wagoning of forage on the telegraph. The only wagon that passed to-day we captured; it belongs to a blockade-runner.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The enemy have attacked me in my front in considerable force. I think I will have no difficulty in repulsing the attack. The enemy use two pieces of artillery. One of my guns has been disabled.

Very respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army.

5.10 P. M.

The firing has died out somewhat. Send this by my orderly, so as to show the infantry brigade where to go.

W. W. SANDERS,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 29, 1864—8 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Just before dark the enemy made a very determined attack upon my line. All quiet now. The brigade of infantry has been ordered back to General Warren's position by General Griffin. I will hold the Wyatt road and Reams' Station road strongly, and get my command back to their horses near the railroad. In the affair this evening my force engaged was entirely dismounted. The enemy showed very few horses, but still I think the attack was made by dismounted cavalry. I cannot give the number of my casualties, but I do not think it will be large. The enemy was very strong in my front and on my left flank.

Yours, respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864—8.50 p. m. (Received 9.05 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

General Gregg will hold as far out as Colonel Wyatt's and nearly to Reams' Station with Davies' brigade, and move the other brigade a short distance in rear and try to get water. His command has not been watered since yesterday. He will send orderlies to General Warren's headquarters.

J. C. BATES,
Captain and Acting Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

Col. C. H. SMITH,
Commanding Second Brigade, Second Division Cavalry:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you at once move your brigade, taking your battery, to the Perkins house, on the Weldon railroad, and there mass and await further orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DEEP BOTTOM, *September 29, 1864—9.30 a. m.*

Colonel PARKER,
Military Secretary of General Grant:

Just arrived here. Enemy's first line taken without firing a gun. No particulars.

O. E. BABCOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

GROVER'S HOUSE, *September 29, 1864—8.30 a. m.*
(Received 9.30 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

Birney has advanced from Deep Bottom and taken the main line of works at the signal tower, New Market Heights, which commands the road, and is advancing. This lets out Kautz, who is starting. By means of cavalry we have communicated across to Ord's column, who Colonel Rand, of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, reports to have carried the enemy's main line of works in his front and is advancing rapidly. Paine's division took their line handsomely, with considerable loss.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

SIGNAL HILL, VA., *September 29, 1864—12 m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

After riding forward to what was General Birney's front at the time, the intersection of New Market and Mill roads, I turned to the left and

visited the works captured by the Eighteenth Corps. From there I returned to Signal Hill, expecting to meet you. Being desirous of keeping in communication with General Meade, I shall now return to Deep Bottom, where any communications will reach me. If our troops do not reach Richmond this afternoon, my opinion is it will be unsafe to spend the night north of the enemy's lower bridge. I think it advisable to select a line now to which the troops can be brought back to-night, if they do not reach Richmond. I have not yet heard of any movements of troops south of the James. My desire on this subject prevents me riding forward to where you are. Please communicate with me all progress made.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

AT JUNCTION OF NEW MARKET AND VARINA [ROADS],
[*September 29, 1864*]—*12.50 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Birney is at this moment making his attack. Will inform you at once. Sixteen cars from Petersburg with troops for Richmond. Have sent word to General Meade. The enemy's works do not cross the Varina road, but run nearly parallel with it to within three miles of Richmond. We shall try the works. If they are carried it is the last obstacle.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

DEEP BOTTOM, VA., *September 29, 1864—1.35 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

If General Birney has not been successful in carrying the works in his front, I think it will be advisable to move out to the Central road. From the inclosed dispatch* you will see that all must be done to-day that can be done toward Richmond.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

DEEP BOTTOM, VA., *September 29, 1864—3.50 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I send you a dispatch† just received from General Meade. It would seem probable the enemy have sent but one division from Petersburg. It would be well, under such circumstances, to hold all the ground we can to-night, and feel out to the right in the morning. This is not intended to prevent as rapid a push forward to-night as can be made.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See Williams to Grant, 12 m., transmitting Fisher to Humphreys, 11.40 a. m., p. 1092.

† See Meade to Grant, 3.30 p. m., p. 1093.

DEEP BOTTOM, VA., *September 29, 1864—4.45 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I will now return to City Point, at which place dispatches telegraphed from here will reach me. Please say to General Barnard that I will send a boat there for him. If the enemy do not re-enforce by more than a division we will give them another trial in the morning, flanking instead of attacking works.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
September 29, 1864—9.10 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I am holding the line pointed out by Colonel Comstock and General Barnard, to wit, from near grave-yard, at Cox's Ferry, up to the white house; thence to the fort taken by Ord's corps; thence along the lines of the enemy taken by us across New Market road; thence, with the right refused, extending to the Darbytown (or Central) road; thence by a cavalry picket across that road, with a small brigade in reserve at the junction of the Kingsland and Varina roads. Kautz has advanced up the Central road to the inner line of redoubts near Richmond; thence he has flanked to the right and has cut connections, and we have not heard from him. Colonel Babcock has reported all other events to you. If General Meade does not attack, why can we not have another corps? The danger is that the enemy may cross the river below us and get in our rear, as we have no cavalry to picket the line to Dutch Gap.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
September 29, 1864—10 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Can you meet me as early as sunrise to-morrow morning at Deep Bottom? I desire to consult you. I would not say this early were it not that any move should be made early.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 29, 1864—11 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Deep Bottom:

General Meade will attack at daylight in the morning. If the enemy have detached largely he may be able to carry Petersburg. If so, I can send two corps, using railroads and steam-boats for the infantry. On account of this attack I want to remain here through the day. I will go to Deep Bottom, however, to meet you, leaving here at 5 a. m.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 29, 1864—1.40 p. m.

Captain BLUNT,
Assistant Quartermaster, Bermuda:

Send out a tug at once down the James River till she meets the gunboat Chamberlain. Have the tug speak the Chamberlain and bring General Weitzel to Bermuda. Give him a horse or ambulance, and tell him to report to me on the field near New Market.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 29, 1864. (Received 2 p. m.)

Lieutenant-Colonel KENSEL,
Chief of Staff, Grover's Farm, Va., General Butler's Hdqrs.:

COLONEL: Lieutenant Amsden, signal officer, reports that a train of twenty wagons passed toward Richmond on Petersburg pike at 9 a. m.; also train of sixteen cars, heavily loaded with troops, going toward Richmond at 11.30 a. m.

Respectfully,

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 29, 1864. (Received 2.20 p. m.)

Colonel KENSEL,
Chief of Staff, General Butler's Hdqrs., Grover's Farm, Va.:

12.40 p. m., seventeen loaded cars reported going to Richmond. 1.30 p. m., thirty-four wagons on the pike going toward Richmond.

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *September 29, 1864—4 p. m.*

Major-General ORD,
Old Headquarters Eighteenth Corps:

Spring Hill fort was counted upon to defend pontoon bridge; this being now removed to Broadway, receives no protection from it. There are three large companies in Fort Converse, say at least 300 men besides my company. There are only 100 men to defend the pontoon bridge, to protect my siege depot, and to load my train if ordered in. The enemy are just reported as massing in rear of the line on Weldon railroad. In view of these facts I requested the services of my company where it seemed to me they would be most useful. Unless I am responsible for the defense of the landing I do not press it.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

Col. H. L. ABBOT:

COLONEL: General Ord has just come in wounded, and thinks that the company you desire should not at present be moved from Battery Converse.

By order of J. H. Potter, colonel, commanding line of defense:

[CHAS. A.] CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT:

I suggested to Colonel Potter, who commands this line, and is apprehensive of an attack, that he could get assistance from Fort Converse, if needed, but of course he cannot since the pontoon bridge has been removed. In view of this, I think your arrangement is a good one.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *September 29, 1864—8.15 p. m.*
(Received 9 p. m.)

Colonel ABBOT:

General Ord captured some heavy guns to-day, and two columbiads and one 100-pounder are still in the works, but orders have been given to destroy them if we have to fall back. The general says, if you have facilities for moving such guns, he wishes you to send and take them away. They are about three miles, good road, from Aiken's Landing. You can take your party there at once and commence. Please reply.

O. E. BABCOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *September 29, 1864—9.10 p. m.*

Lieutenant-Colonel BABCOCK,
Headquarters of General Grant, City Point:

I had already started two sling carts for the guns. Will bring them to Aiken's Landing as soon as possible and embark them there at leisure, being covered by the gun-boats.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *September 29, 1864—9 p. m.*

Maj. GEORGE B. COOK,
Chief of Artillery, Headquarters Eighteenth Corps:

You will have the two columbiads and the 100-pounder brought to Aiken's Landing as soon as possible. Lieutenant Gillett will see personally that it is done. He will take part of Company C, if necessary.

Communicate these orders to him. They are from Lieutenant-General Grant. You should have reported the facts and left me to issue orders. I could have sent three sling carts as well as two. Have the guns left under fire of our gun-boats, and I will send for them by barge. If there are other guns too heavy to cross the pontoon bridge make the same disposition of them. Acknowledge receipt of this.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *September 29, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy have fired quite regularly during the day, doing no damage. Concluded it was policy not to expend much ammunition on them, as no one was at work in the canal. This afternoon they opened with their light pieces, apparently at the signal tower. I returned their fire promptly. The Howlett house battery sent a few shell in the same direction. The guns in Sawyer battery were engaged on that point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

CHAFFIN'S FARM, VA., *September 29, 1864—10.35 a. m.*

General BIRNEY:

General Ord has carried the very strong works and some fifteen pieces of artillery, and his corps is now ready to advance in conjunction with you. General Ord was wounded and has returned to his headquarters, leaving General Heckman in command of the corps. Push forward on the road I left you on.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, September 29, 1864.

Division commanders will see that their lines connect as follows: Brigadier-General Birney's left with the right of Brigadier-General Paine's division; General Foster's left with the right of General Birney; Major-General Terry's left with the right of General Foster. The line from the left of General Foster extending to General Terry's right will be refused a little.

By command of Major-General Birney:

E. L. FORD,
Captain, Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Deep Bottom, Va., September 29, 1864.

Reveille will be sounded and the troops placed under arms at 4 a. m. to-morrow. Division commanders will take immediate measures

to picket the front of their own divisions. Two days' rations of subsistence stores (one of fresh beef) has been directed to be issued to the troops of this command to-night.

By command of Major-General Birney:

E. L. FORD,
Capt., Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
Hatcher's House, September 29, 1864.

General GRANT,
City Point:

General Ord has just returned with a flesh wound in the right leg. He says that in order to hold what we have gained, on account of the heavy work they have had to do, if possible they should be re-enforced. I left the remnant of Stannard's division in the large works at Chaffin's farm, with directions to Heckman to push in toward Richmond with his division. He appeared unable to get beyond the work about one mile and a half north of the south end of the Chaffin's farm works. The rebels did re-enforce Chaffin's farm before we took it and most of them fell back to the other works or across the river. Stannard has directions to destroy the pontoon bridge if he can reach it with artillery. The rebel gun-boats are below him throwing shell at him. General Burnham is dead. Stannard's division (the First) captured the work. His losses are very heavy. I left them at 10 o'clock.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

General MEADE:

We have the Chaffin's farm fort, or had when I left. Was hit in right leg; only a flesh wound. Signal officer reports seventeen loaded cars going toward Richmond at 12.30 this morning.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
September 29, 1864.

General MEADE:

Twenty-six more cars loaded with troops reported moving toward Richmond 2.30 p. m. Large columns of smoke reported near and to right of Richmond by signal officer.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

GROVER'S HOUSE,
Near Kingsland Road, September 29, 1864—9 a. m.

Colonel POTTER,
Commanding Defenses of Bermuda Line:
(Through General Butler's headquarters.)

We are advancing. All goes as intended thus far. Two deserters of the Eighteenth Corps have told the enemy that all the troops have

been taken out of your line. They may attack; if so, it will be just at night or at daybreak. You might show them your force by displaying it on the lines. Have your reveille at 4 o'clock.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

IN THE FIELD, BEFORE RICHMOND,
September 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

SIR: I have the honor to report that at the time the Tenth Corps made the advance on the third fort from my left I ordered a brigade, under Colonel Jourdan, to attack the middle fort and carry it. Almost the instant I made the attack the firing on the part of the Tenth Corps ceased, and the fire of these three forts was at once centered on my brigade in addition to a heavy infantry fire on our left flank, compelling our force to retire. I am now holding the old position waiting further orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. A. HECKMAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., September 29, 1864.

Col. JAMES W. SAVAGE,
Twelfth New York Cavalry:

COLONEL: The commanding general directs me to send you the inclosed telegram from Colonel Hitchcock for your information. He wishes you to send out a reconnaissance, as far as you may deem prudent, to find out if there be any truth in this, and, if so, what the real state of the case is. As it is possible the enemy may have planted torpedoes in the road your scout will take, he advises that the column move very slowly and that two dismounted men be sent well in advance to carefully examine the road for any suspicious indications.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

BATCHELDER'S CREEK, *September 29, 1864.*

Brigadier-General HARLAND,
Commanding:

It is reported by two deserters from the Sixth North Carolina Cavalry that the enemy are taking the rails from the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad to build an iron-clad at the Roanoke River, nine miles below Weldon. The deserters say they have commenced one mile this side of Gum Swamp rifle-pits. They have six army wagons, guarded by sixty men. They leave Kinston about 6 a. m. If this is true I have no doubt the shells placed in the road on our front is to detect a move on our part. The deserters have been sent to the provost-marshal. Their names are Wilkins and Hamilton.

G. H. HITCHCOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding 132d New York Volunteers.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 30, 1864.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

General Warren attacked and carried the enemy's line to-day on the extreme right, capturing a number of prisoners. He immediately prepared to follow up his success. Petersburg paper of to-day has a rumor, which it says is not confirmed, that one brigade of Sheridan's cavalry was ambushed and destroyed at Swift Run Creek. Early was to have attacked General Sheridan at Mount Sidney on the 28th.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 30, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

I have heard no firing yet this morning. Before daylight I went up to Deep Bottom and found all quiet there. General Meade moved out from his left this morning, and must soon encounter the enemy. Rosser's brigade of cavalry has gone to join Early. The brigade numbers about 1,400 horses. Yesterday an infantry force left Petersburg in the Lynchburg cars. It may be, however, they are going via Burkeville to Richmond. Nothing heard from Sheridan through southern sources since Tuesday evening.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 30, 1864—5 p. m.*
(Received 9.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

General Butler reported at 3 p. m. that the enemy had just made an assault in three columns on his line near Chaffin's farm, and had been repulsed. No report from Meade since he carried the enemy's line near Poplar Spring Church.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 30, 1864—5 p. m.*
(Received 9.30 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

A refugee from Richmond just come into General Butler's lines says the greatest consternation is felt in the city, and citizens generally are anxious that the city should be evacuated by the military. No further news from Sheridan is reported. I think lack of supplies is forcing him back.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 30, 1864—8.15 a. m.*
(Received 8.25 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

General Butler's forces will remain where they are for the present, ready to advance, if found practicable. You may move out now and see if an advantage can be gained. It seems to me the enemy must be weak enough at one or the other place to let us in.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—8.30 a. m. (Sent 8.50 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

In accordance with your dispatch of 8.15 I have sent orders to Warren to move out to the Poplar Spring Church, and to Parke to endeavor to get around and come up on Warren's left, and, if practicable, outflank the enemy. A contraband who left Petersburg this morning says that troops were sent on the Lynchburg road yesterday and that Heth's division went to Chaffin's farm. No other news or indications of movement except an ambulance train seen to move this morning to our left.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The signal officers have sent in the following dispatches:

Major FISHER:

A rebel wagon train is moving to our right over a road two or three miles beyond the Appomattox; otherwise all quiet.

I. S. LYON,
Signal Officer.

SECOND CORPS.

Major FISHER:

The signal officer at Friend's house reports a train of thirty wagons moved from the city; are moving to our right.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD—9.15 a. m.

Major FISHER:

The enemy reoccupy their works between lead-works and large fort and vicinity that were reported vacated yesterday. The indications are that a heavy force is in the woods on the right of the large fort; probably the column reported last evening as disappearing in that woods are encamped there. The enemy in our front, from lead-works to beyond the Gregory Chimneys, exhibit a comparatively weak line. Working parties are visible at lead-works and to the left of large fort.

FULTON.

General Meade left here a few moments ago for General Warren's headquarters.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—11.05 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The following has been received:

NEAR FRIEND'S HOUSE—10.15.

Major FISHER:

A train of about twenty black covered wagons, west of city, which have been at same point for two months, has just passed down into line with head of column to right and toward Richmond pike.

JORDAN.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
[*September*] *30, 1864—2.25 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Griffin, Warren reports, has carried the enemy's work on the Peebles farm in handsome style, taking a number of prisoners. Warren is getting his command in position, looking to his connection on the Weldon railroad, and Parke is forming on his left. Gregg reports the enemy's cavalry has left his immediate front, and, as far as he can ascertain, are across the Rowanty Creek. I have directed him to watch the Jerusalem plank road and notified Hancock to have his reserves ready to meet any cavalry demonstrations on the Norfolk or Prince George Court-House roads, where I now have only small cavalry and infantry pickets. Benham must look out for the Old Court-House road.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
September 30, 1864. (Received 3.25 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE,
Warren's Headquarters:

If the enemy can be broken and started, follow him up closely. I can't help believing that the enemy are prepared to leave Petersburg if forced a little.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
September 30, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Warren's Headquarters:

If the enemy's cavalry has left Gregg's front he ought to push ahead, and if he finds no obstacle turn his infantry.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Peebles' Farm, September 30, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

In accordance with your instructions, I have directed General Gregg to send a brigade of cavalry on the left of the infantry and endeavor to turn the enemy's left, the other brigade to support it, if necessary, and to keep a lookout on our immediate rear, where, from all indications, the enemy's cavalry withdrew. General Parke is advancing toward the Boydton road in a northwest direction. I should have mentioned in my last dispatch that General Ayres had taken a small work in advance and on the right of the one taken by Griffin, and also that General Griffin had secured one piece of artillery. Warren's casualties will be about 100 killed and wounded, among the former Colonel Welch, of Michigan. The number of prisoners not known, but not so large as at first supposed.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 30, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Whilst the enemy are concentrating all their strength at two points to resist attacks, do you not deem it safe to take one division of the Second Corps out of the line to aid you? I would not do this, however, until just before an advance is going to be made.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The following has been received:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC—4.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The following dispatch has been received from the station on the Avery house:

"At 2 p. m. six regiments of rebel infantry passed on the Richmond turnpike toward Petersburg. They number between 2,000 and 3,000 men."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—8 p. m. (Sent 8.40 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The following has just been received from the chief signal officer:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC—8 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The sharpshooters drove my lookouts from the plank road station this forenoon and prevented its being reoccupied during the day. I have taken steps to put up a cover for the occupant, and expect to be able to reoccupy the station in the morning. The station at the Walthall house sends the following dispatch:

"One regiment of infantry came from the enemy's right and went into camp about half a mile southwest of the city."

The following dispatches were intercepted:

"3.30 P. M.

"Colonel B.:

"A large steamer loaded with troops just came up the river and stopped at lower landing.

"Y.,
"*Sergeant.*"

"5.30 P. M.

"Colonel B.:

"The City Point train has just gone up with about one regiment on board.

"J. Q. E."

"5.45 P. M.

"Sergeant E.,
"*At D.:*

"You will watch closely the running of the enemy's cars to-night. If more than usual report it to-morrow a. m. If a great deal more than usual report it immediately.

"B. C.,
"*At G.*"

Respectfully,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864—9 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

About 4 p. m. General Parke was advancing to the Boydton plank road when he was vigorously attacked by the enemy, said by prisoners to have been two divisions of Hill's corps. Potter's division, Ninth Corps, was forced back, requiring Hartranft, on his left, to retire a short distance. Warren sent Griffin to Parke's support and the enemy were checked. Parke has lost in prisoners and wounded left in the advanced position held. The fighting for some time till after dark was very severe, and after the Ninth Corps rallied and Griffin attacked it is believed the enemy suffered heavily. I have directed General Warren to intrench himself in his position and extend if practicable to the Weldon railroad, and General Parke to intrench on Warren's left. I do not think it judicious to make another advance to-morrow unless re-enforced or some evidence can be obtained of the weakening of the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 30, 1864—9.40 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

You need not advance to-morrow unless in your judgment an advantage can be gained, but hold on to what you have, and be ready to advance. We must be greatly superior to the enemy in numbers on one flank or the other, and by working around at each end, we will find where the enemy's weak point is. General Butler was assaulted three times this afternoon, but repulsed all of them. I will direct him to feel up the Darbytown road to-morrow.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 30, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Two new regiments and a part of another have gone to you. Can they not be put in the line so as to spare some old troops to re-enforce the left?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—11.30 p. m. (Sent 12 midnight.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The new regiments were ordered on arrival to be placed in the trenches on the Weldon railroad. One arrived this p. m. which, together with the extension of the colored division, Ninth Corps, enabled a brigade of the Fifth Corps to be relieved. I have ordered Hancock to hold his lines with two divisions and to hold the third in reserve ready for contingencies. I have directed Warren and Parke to advance their pickets, well supported, at daylight and endeavor to ascertain the position and strength of the enemy. I presumed Field's and Hoke's divisions, that were in reserve, would be sent to the northern side of the James; this would leave four divisions on this side. Two were engaged this p. m., the other two holding the lines.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—9.30 a. m. (Sent 10.20 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The following* has just been received and has been furnished to General Grant. I did not send to General Grant the dispatch received from Mr. Babcock just after you left camp and which was forwarded to you by an orderly.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

Please have some infantry sent to Prince George Court-House and some to the redoubt on the Norfolk railroad; also some cavalry to each place, who must scout out in front on these roads so as to get information of any parties of the enemy. Use General Patrick's cavalry and infantry, including Collis' and the engineer troops.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

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*See Fulton to Fisher, 9.15 a. m., p. 1118.

CITY POINT, *September 30, 1864.*

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have returned to these headquarters, and have resumed the duties of chief quartermaster Armies operating against Richmond.

R. INGALLS,
Brigadier-General, Chief Quartermaster.

(Copy to Major Davis.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

Refugees yesterday from Petersburg bring information very reliable that Rosser's brigade of cavalry has gone to Early, and also that the following brigades comprise all the cavalry south of the Appomattox: Davis, Dearing, Barringer, Young, and Dunovant. Rosser went over the Appomattox last Monday night. Two deserters from Eighteenth North Carolina, Lane's brigade, Wilcox's division, came in at sundown last night. They report that all of Wilcox's division (the three brigades in our front) were packed up and rationed, and under marching orders; had not moved when our informants left, but were to move during the night. Cooke's brigade, of Heth's division, was to have relieved Lane's yesterday, but got into a fight with our cavalry, and could not relieve it; are mining on the line occupied by Seventh North Carolina, Lane's brigade, informants say, to blow us up. This is on the extreme right of their line of infantry three-quarters of a mile from Davis' house (burned) on Weldon railroad.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. BABCOCK.

(Forwarded to General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864. (Sent 10.25 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

Negro came down Appomattox River from Petersburg to our lines in a boat this a. m.; left the Chesterfield side at 4 o'clock this morning; says no troops crossed the river yesterday or last night; only knows of one regiment having gone to Chaffin's Bluff, a North Carolina regiment doing provost duty on the Chesterfield side. Night before last troops took South Side Railroad for Lynchburg; a brigade or more went, and more were said to be going; were troops that had been in reserve.

NOTE.—Either Field's or Hoke's divisions.

Respectfully,

J. C. BABCOCK.

P. S.—Beauregard has gone to Georgia, and Longstreet is at Pickett's headquarters, near Chester. This negro came from General Hancock's.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Prisoners from Gregg represent Dunovant's and Young's brigades, of Butler's division of cavalry. Fifteen have been sent in. Refugees corroborate the movement of Rosser's brigade of cavalry on Monday; supposed to Early. Pontoon bridges to the number of five or six have lately been placed over the Appomattox River above Petersburg at intervals for three or four miles, understood by refugees to facilitate the falling back to a new line about three miles to the rear of the river. No definite information of the movement of infantry up to last evening. Troops have undoubtedly been sent off to some point on the South Side Railroad the early part of this week.

Respectfully,

J. C. BABCOCK.

P. S.—One refugee reports the movement of the commissary stores on the north side of the Appomattox.

(Forwarded to General Grant at 1 p. m.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864.

Col. G. H. SHARPE, *City Point:*

Rosser's brigade of cavalry went to Early on Monday night last. On night before last troops were sent to Lynchburg via South Side Railroad; don't know what nor how many, but think from Hoke's or Field's divisions. No troops moved from this side of Appomattox last night, if the statement of a negro who left Petersburg this morning at 4 o'clock can be relied on. Wilcox's division was under marching orders last night, and packed and rationed for a march. If they have not crossed the Appomattox may have gone to our right or taken South Side Railroad to Lynchburg. Longstreet is at Chester, at General Pickett's headquarters; Beauregard gone to Georgia.

J. C. B[ABCOCK].

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 30, 1864—7 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

There appear to be but few troops of the enemy visible behind their works and only a few camp-fires are seen. Cannot make correct observations owing to the dark and smoky atmosphere. Will make another report this a. m. if it gets more clear.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

FRIEND'S HOUSE STATION,
September 30, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major FISHER:

No change in enemy's camps this a. m. A train of thirty ambulances crossed upon space west by southwest of city going to our left.

JORDAN,
Sergeant.

SEPTEMBER 30, 1864—9 a. m.

Major FISHER:

Sergeant Jordan reports that he can see very few men around any of the enemy's camps. Four wall-tents visible on Richmond pike to left of Whitehead's house have disappeared.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
September 30, 1864—9.40 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

The enemy's sharpshooters are driving my man off the tree. Whenever a man gets as high as the second ladder they fire at him. One bullet went under his arm, but did not injure him. The men have attempted to go to the glass several times, and no sooner does he get a certain height than they send half a dozen bullets after him, all passing within two feet, and close to his body.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

SEPTEMBER 30, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

An infantry camp and wagon park in western suburbs of city has disappeared. A train of about forty wagons has just moved over road to west of city going south.

JORDAN,
Sergeant.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 264. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. The Two hundred and tenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, having reported to the major-general commanding, is assigned to the Fifth Army Corps, which it will join with as little delay as practicable.

3. The One hundred and eighty-fifth Regiment New York Volunteers, having reported to the major-general commanding, is assigned to the Fifth Army Corps, which it will proceed to join with as little delay as practicable.

* * * * * * *

5. The commanding officer of the Second Cavalry Division will relieve as soon as practicable the detachments of the First Vermont and Third New Jersey Cavalry now serving with the Second and Ninth Corps, respectively, by companies of cavalry of not less than fifty privates each, and the detachments of the First Vermont and Third New Jersey Cavalry on being so relieved will proceed to join their regiments serving in the Middle Military Division. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

6. The battalion of the Twenty-second Massachusetts Volunteers to remain in service after the discharge of the regiment will, on the de-

parture of the regiment from City Point, October 5, to be mustered out of service, report to the major-general commanding the Fifth Army Corps.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, September 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, &c.:

I inclose dispatch* from General Meade for your information. You will at once place strong pickets of infantry on the Old Court-House road and watch it closely. Should you require any cavalry to assist in the picket duty, the Fifth U. S. Cavalry, at these headquarters, will be placed at your disposal. Please return the dispatch by the orderly.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

E. S. PARKER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—12.15 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Have your command prepared to move at short notice at any time during the day after 8 o'clock.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864—8 a. m. (Received 8.16 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

I send a contraband who left Petersburg at 4 this morning. He says day before yesterday some troops left Petersburg for Lynchburg by South Side road. Yesterday he understood Heth's division, or some of it, moved to Chaffin's. Last night he heard troops moving in same direction. Says no train was allowed to go to Richmond yesterday, except a troop train in the morning.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864. (Sent 8.30 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Was anything observed by the pickets or troops last night and this morning indicating the withdrawal of any material portion of the enemy from the intrenchments during the night?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

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* See Meade to Grant, 2.25 p. m., p. 1119.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864—8.15 a. m. (Received 8.20 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

The morning reports are not yet all in. If anything special had occurred, however, I think it would have been reported. Nothing was observed on General Gibbon's front. Will telegraph you again in the course of half an hour, when the remaining reports arrive. The negro I sent up states that he saw troops along the river in both their first and second lines.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

There appears to have been no material change in enemy's line on my front during the night. Just before dark the enemy opened on Fort Sedgwick from a new Coehorn mortar battery in the work just opposite. I placed six Coehorns in Battery 20 to reply.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

General Gregg has moved out the Vaughan road to within two miles of the Rowanty. So far as he can ascertain, Hampton, with two divisions, fell back over the Rowanty last night, and at present he does not know what H. is about. He may undertake a dash up the plank road. This is watched by a regiment of cavalry that can give notice of his approach but not resist him. The commanding general wishes you to keep a lookout for the plank road, so as to meet such a movement if attempted. Some infantry, with cavalry lookouts, were sent from engineer and other troops about headquarters to Prince George Court-House and to fort on Norfolk railroad.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864. (Received 4.05 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Your dispatch was received at 3.40. I have made some disposition to meet the contingency you mentioned. Have the troops [that] occupied the line between Fort Alexander Hays and Fort Davis been moved? If any such force as the division of cavalry come on the left I should hardly be able to concentrate a force rapidly enough to occupy a sufficient length of the rear line against them. In case of necessity,

the force between Fort Davis and Fort Alexander Hays could more promptly occupy the line than any other. I have sent a regiment of Mott's out with the rest of the brigade ready to follow; alsc a section of artillery to the Williams house.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

What troops has Colonel Collis available at headquarters? What number have been sent to Prince George and to the fort on the Norfolk railroad.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—4.30 p. m. (Sent 5.10 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

All of Colonel Collis' troops that are available, some 230 men, went to Prince George Court-House this morning. Two hundred and fifty men of Lieutenant-Colonel Spaulding's engineer troops were also sent this morning to the redoubt on the Norfolk railroad. Lieutenant-Colonel Spaulding has 250 men remaining in camp, and there are about 150 regular engineer troops here. Detachments of cavalry were sent to Prince George Court-House and also to the redoubt on the Norfolk railroad.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—6.50 p. m. (Sent 7.30 p. m.)

General W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Instructions will at once be given to have your wishes respecting the cavalry vedettes of Colonel Collis' command complied with.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—11.50 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

General Butler has Hoke's and Field's divisions and part of Pickett's on the north of the James. We had two of Hill's divisions attacking our left this afternoon. This leaves but two divisions of Lee's army to hold his line south of the Appomattox. The commanding general will

probably require one of your divisions to-morrow, and directs that you draw out one of your divisions from the intrenchments to-night. It may be held as reserve for your line until necessity compels the commanding general to call for it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 30, 1864.

Division commanders and commander of the Artillery Brigade will have the troops under arms at 4 a. m. to-morrow, October 1, 1864.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major, Judge-Advocate and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864.

Maj. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: About 9.30 p. m. yesterday the enemy opened a fire of musketry and a few mortar shells on our right. It was replied to by a few shots from the artillery and soon ceased. It is reported that troops appeared to be moving in the enemy's works yesterday in front of our right. All quiet on the rest of the line except a few shots fired by a new mortar battery of the enemy in front of Fort Sedgwick. For the purpose of replying to this fire a battery of four Coehorn mortars, under command of Captain Hamlink, of Company D, Fourth New York Artillery, was placed in position in Battery No. 20 last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864.

Capt. W. A. HARN,
Commanding Artillery Brigade, Sixth Corps:

CAPTAIN: The major commanding instructs me to inform you that he directs you to withdraw the Vermont battery (the one you last put in) from Fort Sedgwick and to put it in Battery No. 17 to-night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General MILES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires you to send two regiments infantry to a point between the Avery house and these headquarters. The enemy's cavalry fell back from General Warren's left last night behind Rowanty Creek and General Meade expresses

the opinion that they may intend a dash up the plank road, and it is necessary to have troops to meet such a contingency. In case of firing down the plank road or Norfolk road, you will please send the rest of your reserve regiments to the point indicated above and commence thinning out your line so as to get your reserve available, holding your front line with the inclosed works and batteries now garrisoned only, or with the aid of these works and a skirmish line in the connecting pits.

Respectfully,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
September 30, 1864—3.40 p. m.

Major-General MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding wishes you to send a regiment of infantry to occupy the advanced work on the plank road on the rear line to the left of the Williams house. A battery of artillery will be in readiness to move out at once and occupy the works in case of attack. If the enemy appear in that direction, General Hancock wishes you to move out the balance of the brigade and commence the withdrawal of such regiments from the front line as can be easiest withdrawn.

Very respectfully,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—12.15 a. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

I am instructed to inform you to have your command ready to move at 8 a. m.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Major-General Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864—7.25 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Am I to move at 8 o'clock without further orders?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864. (Sent 7.38 a. m.)

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

You are not to move without further orders.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—8.50 a. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that you move out past Poplar Spring Church and endeavor to secure the intersection of the Squirrel Level road, so as to enable us to gain a position on the right of the enemy. General Parke will follow and support you and also try to open a route across the swamp below Poplar Spring Church so as to reach Miss Pegram's. Gregg will be directed to move out to Wilkinson's.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Poplar Spring Church, September 30, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: I have got General Griffin's division at this point and drawn the fire of the enemy's artillery. A heavy piece of wood intervenes between this place and them, and I can see nothing myself. I am widening out the road and getting my command up and in order. I shall let General Parke pass General Ayres, who will guard our right, and let General P[arke] endeavor to pass around the enemy's right, if he desires, while I operate against his position near here.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

General Ferrero is directed to extend his line from Fort Howard to Fort Wadsworth and relieve a brigade of Crawford's, which will be held in reserve for exigencies. I suppose you will keep up some connection with the Weldon railroad. Is there not a road or route direct from Fort Wadsworth to Poplar Spring Church that can be opened and used?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

General Griffin has just carried the intrenchments on Peebles' farm in splendid style. Our loss not very great. The breast-works were defended by infantry and cavalry, and we have taken a number of prisoners. I send you to-day's rebel paper.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

1.45 P. M.

Your dispatch just received. You can take straight across the fields from Fort Wadsworth to the Vaughan road.

G. K. W.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864—2.20 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: The charge by Griffin is one of the boldest I ever saw. His line passed full 600 yards over a clear field defended by infantry against a parapet flanked by an inclosed redoubt. One gun was captured. We lost Colonel Welch, killed on the breast-work of the redoubt. I will push up as fast as I can get my troops in order toward Petersburg on the Squirrel Level road. Parke is extending to the left. I would like to call up all Ayres' command and have his last brigade escort three batteries. Cannot General Bragg establish a picket from the Vaughan road along the road we traveled to Poplar Spring Church? If so, please direct it.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

PEEBLES' FORT, *September 30, 1864—3 p. m.*

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The Eighty-third Pennsylvania, General Griffin's division, has taken the redoubt at W. Davis'. Ayres' skirmish line might be forced forward to connect there; then our line would be complete. General Parke is going to push straight for the pike northwest from here, striking near A. Boisseau's. Roebling just tells me our skirmish line now connects with Ayres' skirmish line near the W. Davis [house]. General Bragg need not establish any picket to connect at Poplar Spring Church.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864—6 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

We have carried the enemy's works on the Squirrel Level road, capturing 1 gun, 7 officers, and 52 men. At last accounts our troops were advancing toward Petersburg. Griffin's division charged the works. Col. Norval E. Welch, commanding Sixteenth Michigan Veteran Volunteers, was killed on parapet of the redoubt.

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you occupy the intrenchments taken from the enemy to-day, your left holding the redoubt in Peebles' field and your right connecting with your works on the Wel-

don railroad. Your line will leave the intrenchments at the most suitable point for making an effective communication between the Weldon railroad and the right of your troops in the field. You will intrench.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: Beside the fine assault of the intrenchments by General Griffin to-day, of which I have already spoken, I cannot omit to mention officially the gallant manner in which he advanced and met the enemy's attack this evening and the steadiness with which his excellent division received the enemy's fire and poured in their own, effectually checking their most persistent efforts to advance.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—11.45 p. m. (Sent 12 midnight.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you send out a strong reconnaissance at daylight to-morrow to ascertain the position of the enemy, and that you advance your pickets well out at the same time. General Parke is similarly directed. General Gregg is ordered to move out the Miss Pegram road for reconnaissance.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Globe Tavern, September 30, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel PARKER,
Headquarters Lieutenant-General Grant:

General Warren is now at Poplar Grove Church; has drawn the enemy's fire, developing their force. He is trying to advance still. General Parke is trying to go around Warren's left. General Gregg is still farther to the left on the Vaughan road but has a very heavy force in his front. Signal officers report a massing of troops, infantry and artillery, on our left.

O. E. BABCOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
September 30, 1864—2.10 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Warren has carried enemy's line, taken some prisoners, number not known. We have a Petersburg paper of 30th. No news from Georgia. Forrest said to have taken Sulphur Springs with 800 pris-

oners. Enemy claims to have ambuscaded a brigade of Sheridan's cavalry at Swift Run Gap and destroyed them. No official confirmation. But little said of yesterday's fight. I will bring in the paper. Expect to leave here at 5 p. m. Early was to attack Sheridan on 28th at Mount Sidney.

O. E. BABCOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

GENERAL: General Meade has ordered a regiment, 900 strong, to report here for our corps by special train. I learned this a short time since.

Very respectfully,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FIFTH CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
Weldon Railroad, September 30, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Colonel LOCKE:

The enemy have struck tents in their works north 10 degrees west of the station, and have moved a column of infantry, about 1,000 strong, toward our left. They have also withdrawn their vedettes from the Davis house chimneys on the Halifax road.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
September 30, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Colonel LOCKE:

The enemy have reformed their skirmish line. It now runs almost due south and west and is south of the W. Davis house. A line of cavalry vedettes has formed in front of the infantry here.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
September 30, 1864.

Colonel LOCKE:

Can see enemy's cavalry on the Squirrel Level road. They have put a light brass gun in position and have a squadron of cavalry supporting it in the road. The enemy's infantry picket-line in front of the W. Davis house are going to the right. The gun above-mentioned has limbered up and moved to the right.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
September 30, 1864—4 p. m. (Received 4.30 p. m.)

Colonel LOCKE:

About 300 enemy's infantry advanced from their main line of works north of station and filed into works south of W. Davis' house.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
September 30, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Colonel LOCKE:

I can see camp-fires of the enemy north of station. They extend from 22 degrees northwest to 25 degrees northeast and grow fainter at each extremity. They are between the two lines of works.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864—2.30 a. m.

The troops of this command will be in readiness to move at 8 o'clock this morning, instead of 5.30, as previously ordered.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

Our skirmish-line now connects with Ayres'. Keep Bragg in reserve. I shall probably let you have Hofmann back after this evening.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864—9 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

I wish you to send General Bragg's brigade out to the Flowers house very early in the morning, to start at 5 a. m. at least, so as to be on the ground at the earliest dawn. I have sent on two batteries to help him, and Captain Cope to assist him, in establishing a line across the road and running to the woods and then to carefully push a skirmish-line a little north of west, to connect with General Ayres at the Chappell house. Let him put up breast-works. If any new regiments arrive for us keep them with you. The Fifth Corps has done splendidly to-day; principally Griffin.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
September 30, 1864.

General WARREN,
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: Everything is quiet thus far. A regiment, 760 strong, under Colonel Sergeant has reported. I have ordered them to the intrenchments on the right of Fort Wadsworth. Bragg is in reserve. Another regiment, the One hundred and eighty-fifth New York, 800 strong, will report to-night. There have been some rumors of a cavalry movement near the Jerusalem plank road, but a dispatch from Hancock says he knows nothing of it yet. Captain Howell has just returned from General Gregg. He is where the Vaughan road crosses Hatcher's Creek, and he holds and extends up the Telegraph road. He has had no force of any extent of the enemy in front of him. What was there was driven south of Hatcher's Creek.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES FIFTH CORPS,
September 30, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: Our line crossed the Squirrel Level road and proceeded toward the Boydton plank road. At Pegram's the enemy threw himself on our left flank and was, for a moment, successful. He was subsequently driven back. Our line advanced until dark. General Meade is still at the front.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Warren has carried the first line of works on the Squirrel Level road beyond Poplar Spring Church. One gun and caisson were taken. He is advancing toward the Boydton road. Parke is on his left. Sixty prisoners were captured.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

PROVIDENCE, *September 30, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Dispatch received and the members of my staff will be ordered back at once. Some have gone.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, September 30, 1864.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

The lieutenant-general desires that you send Colonel Humphrey down here to-night. The general wishes to assign him to the command of a division in Eighteenth Corps in place of Stannard, wounded to-day. He will give him back to you again. I think he will be a fine man for the division, will he not?

O. E. BABCOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—9 a. m. (Received 9.20 a. m.)

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

General Warren is ordered to move out the Poplar Spring Church road and endeavor to secure the intersection of the Squirrel Level road. The commanding general directs that you move out after and co-operate with him in endeavoring to secure a position on the right of the enemy's position. Try to open a route across the swamp to vicinity of Miss Pegram's, below Poplar Spring Church, and take post on Warren's left. Gregg will be directed to move out to Wilkinson's.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
Poplar Spring Church, September 30, 1864—1 p. m.

General MEADE:

I am now close up with Warren. Am cutting a road from Smith's to the westward, pressing to the south of Warren. Warren has just advanced, and I am ready to support him, if necessary.

Yours,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you occupy the intrenchments taken from the enemy to-day, your right on the redoubt in Peebles' field and the left on the swamp. You should hold across the road running past Peebles' toward J. Hawks' or J. Smith's and intrench.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—11.45 p. m. (Sent 12 midnight.)

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you send out a strong reconnaissance at daylight to-morrow to ascertain the whereabouts of the enemy, and that you advance your pickets well out at the same time. General Warren is similarly directed. General Gregg is ordered to move out the Miss Pegram road to-morrow at daylight for reconnaissance and to communicate with you and co-operate so far as may be necessary.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

I have been ordered to move at 8 o'clock. Would like to know whether you are moving or expect further orders before starting?

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864.

General WARREN:

I will hold on here until I hear further from General Meade. Please let me know when you receive orders to move, so that I may join you.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 12. } HDQRS. 1ST BRIG., 1ST DIV., 9TH A. C.,
Near Petersburg, Va., September 30, 1864.

I. In compliance with orders from division headquarters, dated September 30, 1864, I hereby assume command of the First Brigade, First Division, Ninth Army Corps, Col. B. C. Christ, Fiftieth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, commanding, having been mustered out of the U. S. service.

SAMUEL HARRIMAN,
Colonel Thirty-seventh Wisconsin Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES FIFTH CORPS,
September 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Third Division, Ninth Corps:

GENERAL: The Two hundred and tenth Pennsylvania is now occupying the works from Fort Wadsworth to the right. If your line is too thin you may move to the right, but let me know before moving.

Our forces have advanced to the Pegram house. Another regiment, 800 strong, will arrive to-night. Look out for the left of your line to-night and report anything that is unusual.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—In case of necessity apply to Brigadier-General Bragg for relief.

S. W. C.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
September 30, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Comdg. Division, at General Parke's Hdqrs., Jones' House:

The major-general commanding directs that you extend your line from Fort Howard to Fort Wadsworth, relieving the brigade of General Crawford's division now in the intrenchments between those redoubts. You will receive your orders from General Crawford, who is at General Warren's headquarters on the Weldon railroad. Report to him where you are and how reached.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—12.15 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:
(Through Headquarters Fifth Corps.)

You need not have your command ready to move before 8 o'clock in the morning.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
September 30, 1864—8.45 a. m. (Received 9.09 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

All quiet during the night. The enemy's pickets are directly in front of mine on the Reams' Station and Wyatt and the cross-road to the Vaughan road.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—9 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The major-general commanding directs that you move out to Wilkinson's, on the Vaughan road. General Warren is directed to endeavor

to occupy the intersection of Squirrel Level road with Poplar Spring Church road, and General Parke to try and open a route across below Poplar Spring Church to Miss Pegram's.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 30, 1864—12.10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I am on the Vaughan road. The enemy made some opposition to my advance. In the affair last evening General Hampton commanded. Generals W. H. F. Lee and Butler were present. The enemy moved back after dark in the direction of the Rowanty.

Yours, respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 30, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I left one strong regiment on the plank road to watch that road and toward Reams' Station. The pickets fell back to the Rowanty, and I cannot discover that Hampton's force has moved north of that stream. There are several roads on my left, to hold which and toward Reams' Station requires considerable expenditure of my command.

Yours, respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The major-general commanding directs that you move up a brigade by the route you followed yesterday, communicate with General Parke, and look out for his left, and endeavor to get on the Boydton plank road. General Parke is moving out northwest from Peebles' to strike the plank road about A. Boisseau's. You can send back and bring up forage to-night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 30, 1864—5.20 o'clock.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have sent General Davies' brigade (which was at once available) to carry out your instructions on General Parke's left. The

regiment sent to Miss Pegram's to report to General Warren belongs to my remaining brigade. As General Davies will be in the same vicinity I would like to have this regiment relieved, as the brigade to which it belongs is mostly engaged picketing. I hear firing in the direction General Davies has advanced, so that probably his arrival will be delayed.

Yours, respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—8.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG, *Commanding Cavalry:*

The major-general commanding directs that you withdraw the brigade you sent up the road toward the Boydton plank road past Miss Pegram's, directing a regiment to report to General Parke, commanding Ninth Corps. General Parke holds part of the intrenchments taken from the enemy in Peebles' field, General Warren making the connection with the Weldon railroad. General Parke will probably wish the regiment to hold the cross-roads at or near the house marked "J. Hawks" on the map. Have you any information of the whereabouts of the enemy's cavalry? The commanding general wishes you to remain where you were this morning—that is, at Davis'.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

Bring up such supplies as you require.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
September 30, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Just before dark this evening the enemy's cavalry made a demonstration against my regiment toward Reams' Station, and also on a road running south from near Wyatt's. General Davies found the enemy with artillery near the crossing of the Rowanty. I cannot discover where the main body of the cavalry is. I have not had a report from General Davies for some time, but presume he is at Miss Pegram's. He will not get back with his brigade, I fear, for several hours, as he will have established his line before the order for his return can reach him. A portion of the remaining brigade is on the Vaughan road.

Respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 30, 1864—11.50 p. m. (Sent 12 midnight.)

Brigadier-General GREGG, *Comdg. Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:*

(Through headquarters Fifth Army Corps.)

The major-general commanding directs that you move out with your command to-morrow at daylight on the road on which the Boisseaus

live, according to the map, to ascertain the position of the enemy. You will communicate with General Parke, whose position I have informed you of, and co-operate in reconnaissance with him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
Junction of Varina and New Market Roads,
In the Field, September 30, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding, &c.:

A refugee from Richmond, who has been identified by one of my agents, states that great excitement exists in Richmond, and that the people talk among themselves of endeavoring to have the authorities evacuate the city if possible. To the best of his knowledge and information no troops arrived in the city from Petersburg or otherwise up to 10 p. m. yesterday.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 30, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Indications are that not more than one division of troops have been moved from Petersburg. Reconnaissances might be made toward the Charles City road, and preparations made to move out that way in a day or two if thought advisable, breaking for a time all connection with the river. I do not say this will be advisable, but get such information as you can about roads, &c. Meade has moved on the south with two divisions, and sent two more farther east to try and flank the enemy. As soon as anything is reported I will inform you.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 30, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Deep Bottom:

Has anything been heard of Kautz this morning? I begin to feel some uneasiness about him.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
Junction of Varina and New Market Roads,
September 30, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding, &c.:

Kautz has returned and is picketing on our right from the Darbytown road to New Market, and is holding the former road in force. He was not able to get through. The enemy here massed on General Bir-

ney's left, which is about the center of our line, nearly opposite the large fort which we took, and made a determined assault in three lines with a very heavy fire of artillery, but were repulsed just now.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, September 30, 1864—3.50 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The enemy have assaulted my lines three times at the fort taken yesterday, but have been each time handsomely repulsed. General Stannard is seriously wounded. If you will send me a good brigadier-general to command his division you will confer a great favor.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *September 30, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I will send Brigadier-General Humphrey, of the Ninth Corps, to take command of Stannard's division, until some general officer returns. A column of troops numbering from 2,000 to 3,000 men were reported moving on the Richmond pike toward Petersburg this afternoon.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *September 30, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Deep Bottom:

General Warren carried the enemy's works beyond Spring Church handsomely, capturing a number of prisoners. He is now preparing for a further advance on the enemy. Be well on your guard to act defensively. If the enemy are forced from Petersburg they may push to oppose you.

U. S. GRANT.

(Copy to General Birney.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 30, 1864—7.50 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

The telegraph now is within half a mile of my headquarters, and nearer Weitzel's. We are making the best preparation we can for defense. We have repulsed the enemy in all his attacks, with little loss on our side and heavy on theirs. We are much weaker than you suppose. I would be very glad of any re-enforcements. The remainder of Field's division, three brigades, have crossed and are in our front with Hoke's division. Heth was ordered to start, but I can hear nothing of him. The city local reserves are in our front, down to the clerks in the naval department, known as the Naval Battalion, and the clerks in the

express companies and the policemen. We have got now before us everything there is. A few more men and we can push through the Darbytown line unless Lee quits Petersburg. If he does it is a question of legs which will get here first. I feel no doubt of being able to hold until you come if Lee and all come. These assaults appear to be directed to the recapture of the big fort. It is evident that that capture troubles the enemy much; indeed, the prisoners say they are told it shall be taken if it costs every man they have got and all we have got. Be it so. So far as I am concerned it shall not be taken except upon those terms. I congratulate you upon Warren's success. I hope he has been successful in the attack we have just heard. I have no accurate map, so that I cannot appreciate the value of his success.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *September 30, 1864—11 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

General Meade's forces met with some success to-day, capturing a few prisoners, two redoubts, and some rifle-pits; but later this evening, in moving two divisions of the Ninth Corps to flank the enemy, they were attacked furiously by two divisions of Hill's corps and forced back somewhat, leaving some of their wounded and some prisoners in the hands of the enemy. A division of the Fifth Corps moved up to their assistance and checked any farther advance, and it is thought with heavy slaughter of the enemy. This would look as if no heavy force had been sent north of the James. I think it would be advisable for you to reconnoiter up the Darbytown road, and if there appears to be any chance for an advance make it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *September 30, 1864—11.15 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Whilst in your present position Wilson's Wharf and Powhatan can be reduced to small garrisons, and Harrison's Landing can be abandoned altogether, if this will give you re-enforcements to do any good.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 30, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

From an officer who is to take the oath of allegiance I receive the following information, upon which I rely: That before me there is Heth's, Wilcox's, Field's, and Hoke's divisions, Pickett still at Bermuda, Early having Kershaw's, Rodes' (Early's old), and Breckinridge's forces. Before Petersburg is Anderson's old division, Mahone com-

manding, and Bushrod Johnson. Lee is commanding in person on the north side of the James. We shall be attacked in the morning and we shall make the best fight we can, but it is respectfully suggested that the immediate movement of a division or two by rail to City Point, and thence by boat to Aiken's Landing, is necessary. They have as many men as we have, with the advantage of being the attacking party. We shall be ready for them at daylight. Hoke's division has suffered so heavily that I don't think it will go in again. This information, which I believe is reliable, is submitted to the lieutenant-general. We have as the result of to-day's fighting 209 prisoners, 18 officers, 2 battle-flags.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *September 30, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Deep Bottom:

Your dispatch received since mine was sent to you. Without abandoning the position now occupied by Meade, I cannot re-enforce you. You might, however, put a new regiment in at Deep Bottom and move that force to the front. If the enemy continues to hold his present force at Petersburg, I will to-morrow or Sunday night withdraw a corps rapidly, using railroad and steamers to get them to you without fatigue, and make another push. Is there not a considerable number of the Eighteenth Corps back in their old camps who ought to be up with their regiments?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, September 30, 1864.
(Sent 12.30 a. m. October 1.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding, City Point:

Since writing my dispatch of 11.30 p. m., I have received yours of 11 p. m. saying that two divisions of Hill's corps are before Petersburg. I don't think that can be. I have drawn all the available old men, with the exception of 200 men, from Forts Powhatan and Pocahontas. General Ord was notified at his headquarters to forward all the men in his camp to-day. I see no reason to alter my dispatch of 8.30 [11.30] p. m. I will put the officer upon his life as to the truth of his information before sending this dispatch.

P. S.—I have examined this man upon his life, and he says he is willing to put it upon the question of all the divisions I have named except Wilcox's division, of Hill's corps, to wit, Heth, Field, and Hoke. He believes strongly from what he has heard that Wilcox is here, but he says he does not know it. We have numbers of prisoners from Field's and Hoke's divisions, and all report Heth here.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

AUGUSTA, ME., *September 30, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

The Governor is absent, but will endeavor to have the Eighth and Eleventh Maine Regiments filled up.

JOHN L. HODSDON,
Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 116.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, September 30, 1864.*

Bvt. Maj. Gen. Godfrey Weitzel is hereby assigned to duty according to his brevet rank, and will assume command of the Eighteenth Army Corps, relieving Major-General Ord, wounded in action.

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 30, 1864—9.55 a. m.

Major-General BIRNEY, *Commanding Tenth Corps:*

The exigency having arisen provided for in the instructions, the junction of the two corps, General Paine's division will report to Major-General Weitzel, who has assumed command of the Eighteenth Corps. General Birney will move his corps by the left, so as to connect with the right of General Weitzel, at or near the prominent work taken by the Eighteenth Corps from the enemy, now occupied by General Stannard's division. His command will then man the line until it strikes the New Market road, and then at a proper point across that road he will refuse his right, throwing it over nearly parallel to the road as the capabilities of the ground may suggest. General Kautz, with his command, now on the Darbytown road, will connect with General Birney, holding the most of his force with the right refused, and picket so as to join pickets with the forces at Deep Bottom, at or near the signal station at New Market. General Kautz will throw his pickets out on all practicable roads, so that no advance can be made by the enemy without timely notice, and if an advance is made it will be resisted firmly and immediate information given to General Birney and these headquarters simultaneously. Both Generals Birney and Kautz will strengthen their lines by abatis, felling trees, and by such other means as their experience will suggest, it being our intention to hold our positions as at present until other movements of the enemy. It is suggested that the reveille should be at 4.30 in the morning.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Same to General Kautz.)

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., September 30, 1864.

Division commanders will hold their commands well in hand and prepared to move at any time. The men must be kept with their regiments, and all stragglers and men absent from the regiments other

than authorized details must immediately be called in. As it is possible that a forward movement by either flank may be made by us it is of the utmost importance that all men be kept immediately with their commands, as otherwise they will be liable to capture by the enemy. All baggage and supply wagons must be sent to Deep Bottom, and when brought to the front must be detained no longer than is necessary.

By command of Major-General Birney:

E. L. FORD,
Captain, Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Richmond, September 30, 1864.

Pursuant to orders from superior headquarters, this corps will hold the present line. General Paine having received orders to report back to the Eighteenth Corps will be relieved as rapidly as possible by Brigadier-General Birney. The brigade of Second Division reporting last night to the Eighteenth Corps will be relieved at once and help General Foster to extend his line connecting with General Birney. Major-General Terry will move his reserve brigade to the left, relieving General Foster's right brigade. These dispositions will be made as soon as possible.

By command of Major-General Birney:

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Aide-de-Camp.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Richmond, September 30, 1864.

Division commanders will at once strengthen their works, reversing them and slashing timber in their front, making such improvements as may be necessary in their opinion. In case of an attack on one part of the line troops will be held ready to double-quick to it if necessary. The enemy are, of course, being strongly re-enforced. Trenching tools can be sent for to the rear.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Richmond, September 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General TERRY,
First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that Barton's brigade will soon be relieved and ordered to report to you.

Very respectfully,

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Richmond, September 30, 1864.

[General W. BIRNEY]:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you hold yourself in readiness to relieve General Paine's division and extend your lines to the left.

Very respectfully,

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, September 30, 1864.

Capt. E. L. FORD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have moved one of my regiments to the left of the ravine, connecting closely with General Paine. General Paine has not moved to the left and says he has no orders to move.

Awaiting instructions, I remain, your obedient servant,

WM. BIRNEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 100. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., September 30, 1864.

On account of wounds received in battle leave of absence for thirty days is hereby granted Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord, commanding Eighteenth Army Corps, with permission to take with him his personal aide, Maj. S. S. Seward.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

GEO. K. LEET,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
Junction of the Varina and New Market Roads,
In the Field, September 30, 1864.

Major-General WEITZEL,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

Come up as far as you can. We shall have a very thin line to strike the New Market road. Favor us as much as possible, and Birney will join Stannard's division.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
September 30, 1864.

Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of Va. and N. C.:

SIR: I have the honor to report, for the information of the general commanding, that the force I have under my command will not extend from that work to the river. I have just returned from a personal examination of the line.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
September 30, 1864.

Major-General WEITZEL,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

Prisoners taken report that they have been quite heavily re-enforced, and that orders have been given to take the forts in your front at all hazards before sundown to-morrow. We know of their being re-enforced by Hoke's division and three brigades of Field's division, about 3,500 men. Look out for to-morrow morning.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
Near Chaffin's Farm, September 30, 1864.

Captain GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Corps:

I sent an hour since a staff officer to Deep Bottom for my own commissary stores. I have also to report that I have just been informed by Major-General Weitzel, commanding Eighteenth Corps, that I was to be relieved in my present position by troops of Tenth Corps, and was then to report to him.

Respectfully,

C. J. PAINE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, September 30, 1864.

Colonel Moore, commanding Two hundred and third Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, Birney's Sharpshooters, is hereby detailed to take command of the post of Deep Bottom and on the other side of Four-Mile Creek. He will be responsible for picket, provost, and other duties, and will receive all recruits and report them to their proper commands and forward them, if ordered by their commanding officers. He will see that no enlisted man passes the pontoon bridge from the post without a proper order, or an orderly bearing dispatches.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

DARBY ROAD, FIRST LINE REBEL WORKS,
September 30, 1864—7.30 a. m.

General BUTLER,
Commanding:

I felt the enemy's line all the way to the Chickahominy and found the roads, all of them, commanded by heavy and light artillery. I found it a connected line throughout and the redoubts very numerous. I made an attempt at midnight to assault the works near the Chickahominy, but in the darkness the command became confused in the fallen timber, which was very extensive and difficult to get through, and I withdrew.

Having had no sleep last night, the command is now resting and feeding. I will await orders here. I have about a dozen prisoners. My wounded amount to half a dozen. None killed as yet reported.

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

[SEPTEMBER 30, 1864.—For the "effective" of the Union forces operating against Richmond, see Part I, p. 39.]

Abstract from return of the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of September, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
General headquarters	38	.....	38	42	.....	.....
Provost Guard (Patrick)	45	1,001	1,494	2,044	.....	.....
Engineer Brigade (Benham)	36	2,269	2,813	3,213	.....	.....
Battalion U. S. Engineers (Harwood)	5	241	285	346	.....	.....
Artillery (Hunt)	39	1,128	1,245	1,540	.....	40
Guards and orderlies (Ingalls)	1	45	97	102	.....	.....
Signal Corps (Fisher)	9	134	163	198	.....	.....
Second Army Corps (Hancock)	795	16,316	22,725	46,844	.....	54
Fifth Army Corps (Warren)	637	13,568	19,080	32,829	.....	44
Ninth Army Corps (Parke)	530	14,747	19,551	35,640	.....	26
Second Cavalry Division (Gregg)	146	4,524	6,387	11,136	.....	4
Total	2,281	53,973	73,878	133,934		168

Abstract from returns of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of September, 1864.

[Compiled mainly from subordinate returns.]

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
General headquarters	28	.....	28	29	.....	.....
Signal Corps (Clum)	20	139	164	196	.....	.....
Naval Brigade (Graham)	27	537	822	1,064	.....	.....
13th Company Massachusetts Heavy Artillery (Pickering)	5	100	124	145	.....	.....
1st New York Mounted Rifles (Sumner)	12	348	544	1,215	.....	2
1st New York Engineers (Serrell)	6	303	393	686	.....	.....
Siege Artillery (Abbot)	53	1,484	1,714	2,018	29	54
Tenth Army Corps (Birney)	417	10,867	12,834	22,950	.....	54
Eighteenth Army Corps (Weitzel)	356	9,399	11,839	25,835	64	.....
Cavalry Division (Kautz)	58	1,492	2,005	3,051	.....	6
District of Eastern Virginia (Shepley)	139	3,984	5,631	10,790	156	12
District of North Carolina (Harland)	236	5,558	7,946	10,695	60	40
Separate Brigade* (Marston)	65	1,509	1,884	2,337	1	9
Provisional Brigade (Potter)	207	4,622	5,147	7,289	.....	.....
Grand total	1,629	40,342	51,075	88,300	310	177
Grand total according to department return	1,633	40,354	49,787	87,115	394	128

*Embraces troops at Harrison's Landing and Forts Pocahontas and Powhatan.

CONFEDERATE CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 180. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, August 1, 1864.*

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XXXVI. The following schedule of prices for articles named therein, adopted by commissioners appointed pursuant to law for the State of Virginia, are announced for the information of all concerned, and the special attention of officers and agents of the Government is directed thereto:

RICHMOND, VA., *August 1, 1864.*

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON:

SIR: We were informed early in July that the demand for army supplies was so urgent that your department felt constrained to disregard our schedule prices then in force and offer market rates to the farmers for their wheat if delivered in July. This policy was deemed indispensable to insure the early receipt of supplies. Concurring with the War Department in the paramount importance of obtaining, at the earliest practicable period, a quantity of wheat for the support of the army, we apprehended so great a disparity existed between our former rates and the rates then offering in our leading cities that unless we advanced prices our action might serious[ly] embarrass the Government in their efforts to obtain immediate supplies. Under these circumstances, and owing to the very short crop of wheat and unprecedented demand for breadstuffs, together with the depreciation in the currency, as well as to the further fact that the farmers were then securing the oat and hay crops, we proposed the advanced prices set forth in our July and August schedules; but now, as the immediate wants of the army are being provided for and vigorous efforts are initiated to reduce the currency and reinstate public credit, we are disposed to accept the recent manifestations of public opinion in regard to our prices as the strongest assurance that in future adequate supplies can be secured on very moderate terms. As the press, the public, and the farmers in part have all united in condemning our rates as too high, we therefore defer to what seems to be the general desire and propose the following prices:

Having readopted the schedules of May and June last, in accordance with the clearly manifested wishes of the people, we have thought it advisable and proper to stimulate the sale and delivery of small grain, &c., now so much needed as to be indispensable, by advancing the price of wheat, flour, corn, and corn meal, oats and hay, delivered in the month of August. Therefore we place the price of wheat at $7.50 per bushel, and a corresponding advance of 50 per cent. on all the grades of flour, mill offal, &c., and corn we assess at $6 per bushel, and corn meal at $6.30 per bushel; oats and hay, per 100 pounds, unbaled, at $6, and at $7 per 100 pounds baled, east of the Blue Ridge, and delivered during the month of August.

Railroad iron not being included in the Government contracts with the iron manufacturers should not have been advanced in our last schedules, so we readopt our old valuation for railroad iron, and put the price at $190 per ton.

The foregoing are to be the prices of wheat, flour, mill offal, corn, and corn meal, oats, hay, and railroad iron, delivered during the month of August.

In September we propose to adopt simply the former schedules for May and June, with the exception of the assessment upon railroad iron, which we wish to continue at $190 per ton during the month of September. We also readopt the revision of our February and March schedule in reference to the impressment of horses as published in our July schedule. We trust that the people in those counties who have recently in public meetings expressed their views in favor of low prices will now, since all impediments have been removed, as patriotical lead out in tendering and selling, both to the Government and to the people, all they can spare at schedule rates. Such an example voluntarily set before the people would exert a most salutary influence. The public may be assured we will interpose no barrier to thwart either their benevolent intentions or generous contributions in behalf of their country. Identified with them in all respects, we are disposed to foster every praiseworthy effort made in behalf of our common cause.

RICHMOND, VA., *May 4, 1864.*

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON:

SIR: In reviewing the schedules of prices for May and June we invited the co-operation and aid of Mr. William B. Harrison, and it is just to add the schedules received the unanimous approval of the commissioners. We respectfully offer the accompanying Schedules A and B, with the understanding that the prices are to

remain for the months of May and June, unless in the interval it should be deemed necessary to modify them. The following prices are to be the maximum rates to be paid for the articles impressed in all cities and the usual places of sale, and when impressed on farms or elsewhere the same prices are to be paid. Under existing circumstances we deem it not only just, but most likely to favor increased production, that producers in future should not be required to transport their surplus productions when impressed, but that the agents of the Government should employ or impress the neighborhood or county wagons and teams to haul all such articles, and so divide the work between the owners of wagons and teams as to be least prejudicial to those successfully engaged in agriculture.

SCHEDULE A.

Article.	Quality.	Description.	Quantity.	Price.
Wheat	Prime	White or red	Per bushel of 60 pounds	$5 00
Flour	Good, fine		Per barrel of 196 pounds	22 00
Do	Good, superfine		do	25 00
Do	Good, extra superfine		do	26 00
Do	Good, family		do	28 00
Corn	Prime	White or yellow	Per bushel, 56 pounds	4 00
Unshelled corn	do	do	do	3 95
Corn meal	Good		Per bushel, 50 pounds	4 20
Rye	Prime		Per bushel, 56 pounds	3 20
Cleaned oats	do		Per bushel, 32 pounds	2 50
Wheat bran	Good		Per bushel, 17 pounds	50
Shorts	do		Per bushel, 22 pounds	70
Brown stuff	do		Per bushel, 28 pounds	90
Ship stuff	do		Per bushel, 37 pounds	1 40
Bacon	do	Hog round	Per pound, net weight	3 00
Pork, salt	do		Per pound	2 60
Pork, fresh	Fat and good			2 25
Lard	Good			3 00
Horses and mules	First class	Artillery, &c	Average price per head	500 00
Wool	Fair or merino	Washed	Per pound	3 00
Do	do	Unwashed	do	2 00
Pease	Good		Per bushel	12 00
Beans			do	12 00
Potatoes		Irish	do	5 00
Do		Sweet	do	8 00
Onions			do	5 00
Dried peaches		Pealed	do	8 00
Do		Unpealed	do	4 50
Dried apples		Pealed	do	5 00
Hay, baled		Timothy or clover	Per 100 pounds	3 90
Do		Orchard or herd grass.	do	3 90
Hay, unbaled			do	3 00
Sheaf oats, baled			do	4 40
Sheaf oats, unbaled			do	3 50
Blade fodder, baled			do	3 90
Blade fodder, unbaled			do	3 00
Shucks, baled			do	2 60
Shucks, unbaled			do	1 70
Wheat straw, baled			do	2 20
Wheat straw, unbaled			do	1 30
Pasturage		Interior	Per head per month	3 00
Do	Superior	do	do	4 00
Do	First-rate	do	do	5 00
Do	Good	Near cities	do	5 00
Do	Superior	do	do	6 00
Do	First-rate	do	do	7 00
Salt	Good		Per bushel of 50 pounds	5 00
Soap	do		Per pound	2 00
Candles	do	Tallow	do	3 00
Vinegar	do	Cider	Per gallon	3 00
Whisky	do	Trade	do	15 00
Sugar	do	Brown	Per pound	6 00
Molasses	do	New Orleans	Per gallon	25 00
Rice	do		Per pound	1 00
Coffee	do	Rio	do	8 00
Tea	do	Trade	do	15 00
Vinegar	do	Manufactured	Per gallon	1 00
Pig-iron	do	No. 1 quality	Per ton	350 00
Do	do	No. 2 quality	do	314 00
Do	do	No. 3 quality	do	278 00
Bloom iron	do		do	716 00
Smiths' iron	do	Round, plate, or bar.	do	1,030 00
Railroad iron	do		do	425 00

SCHEDULE A—Continued.

Article.	Quality.	Description.	Quantity.	Price.
Leather	Good	Harness	Per pound	$5 30
Do	do	Sole	do	5 00
Do	do	Upper	do	5 60
Beef-cattle	Superior	Gross weight	Per 100 pounds	30 00
Do	First-rate	do	do	40 00
Do	Good	do	do	50 00
Salt beef	do		Net per pound	2 00
Sheep	Fair		Per head	50 00
Army woolen cloth, 3-4 yards.	Good	10 ounces per yard per greater or less width or weight.	Per yard	11 00
Army woolen cloth	do	20 ounces per yard per greater or less width or weight.	do	22 00
Army woolen cloth, 6-4 yards.	do		do	1 47½
Army woolen cloth	do		do	1 71½
Flannels, 3-4 yards	do	6 ounces per yard	do	2 08
Cotton shirting, 3-4 yards.	do	4½ yards per pound	do	1 98
Cotton shirting, 7-8 yards.	do	3¾ yards per pound	do	2 26½
Cotton sheetings, 4-4 yards.	do	3 yards per pound	do	3 00
Cotton, Osnaburg, 3-4 yards.	do	6 ounces per yard	do	
Cotton, Osnaburg, 7-8 yards.	do	8 ounces per yard	do	
Cotton tent cloths	do	10 ounces per yard	do	
Army shoes	do		Per pair	15 00
Shoe thread	do		Per pound	3 00
Woolen socks, men's	do		Per pair	2 00
Corn-top fodder, baled	do		Per 100 pounds	4 00
Corn-top fodder, unbaled.	do		do	3 00
Wheat chaff, baled	do		do	4 00
Wheat chaff, unbaled	do		do	3 00
Sorghum molasses	do	Sorghum	Per gallon	20 00
Pasturage for sheep	do	Interior	Per head	40
Do	Superior	do	do	50
Do	First-rate	do	do	60

NOTE.—On the above enumerated cotton cloths pro rata as to greater or less width or weight.

In assessing the average value of first-class artillery and wagon horses and mules at $500 we designed that the term should be accepted and acted upon according to its obvious common sense import. In other words, that they should be selected and then impressed accordingly, as their working qualities and adoption [adaptation] to army service, together with their intrinsic value, would warrant a judicious purchaser in considering them as coming within the contemplation of the commissioners when they assessed the average value of such horses as the Government needs at $500. But cases might arise, however, when the public exigencies would be so urgent as to demand that all horses at hand should be impressed; yet, under ordinary circumstances, when family or extra blooded horses or brood mares of admitted high value are impressed, we respectfully suggest to the Secretary of War to have instructions forwarded to impressing officers to propose and allow the owners to substitute in their stead such strong, sound, and serviceable horses or mules as shall be considered and valued by competent and disinterested parties as first-class artillery horses or first-class wagon mules.

The term "average value per head" is in contradistinction to a fixed and uniform price for each horse and mule. We suppose in impressing a number of horses or mules, whether owned by several persons or one individual, that some might be estimated at $300, and others at different advanced rates, according to their worth, up as high as $700, thus making an average value or price for a number of good, sound, and efficient horses or mules $500 each.

In illustration of our views we will add, that a horse with only one eye sound might, in all other respects, be classed as a first-class artillery horse, yet the loss of one eye would justly and considerably curtail his value. So a horse from ten to

eighteen years of age might be deemed in all other particulars as a first-class artillery horse, but, of course, however efficient and able to render good service for a year or two, yet his advanced age would justly and materially impair his value. Any horse, however he may approximate the standard of a first-class artillery horse, must, according to deficiency, fall below the maximum price, and as few, comparatively, come up to the standard, and are, therefore, entitled to the maximum price, as, of course, in all other instances the price should be proportionately reduced as imperfections place them below the standard of first-class, &c.

SCHEDULE B.

Hire of labor, teams, wagons, and drivers.

Labor.	Quantity and time.	Price.
Baling long forage	Per 100 pounds	$0 90
Shelling and bagging corn, sacks furnished by Government	Per 56 pounds	05
Hauling	Per cwt., per mile	08
Hauling grain	Per bushel, per mile	04
Hire of two-horse team, wagon, and driver, rations furnished by owner.	Per day	10 00
Hire of same, rations furnished by Government	do	5 00
Hire of four-horse team, wagon, and driver, rations furnished by owner.	do	13 00
Hire of same, rations furnished by the Government	do	6 50
Hire of six-horse team, wagon, and driver, rations furnished by owner.	do	16 00
Hire of same, rations furnished by Government	do	8 50
Hire of laborer, rations furnished by owner	do	2 50
Hire of same, rations furnished by Government	do	1 50
Hire of same, rations and clothing furnished by owner	Per month	50 00
Hire of same, rations furnished by the Government	do	30 00
Hire of teamster, rations furnished by the Government	do	40 00
Hire of laborer, clothing and rations furnished by Government	Per year	300 00
Hire of same, rations only furnished by the Government	do	400 00
Hire of same, clothing and rations furnished by owner	do	550 00
Hire of ox-cart, team, and driver, rations furnished by owner	Per day	10 00
Hire of same, rations furnished by Government	do	5 00

REVISION OF THE SCHEDULES OF FEBRUARY AND MARCH LAST.

Since the adoption of our schedules for the months of February and March the financial bills passed by Congress taxing the currency have seriously impaired the value of old issues of Confederate Treasury notes. At this juncture large numbers of horses and mules were impressed and paid for in a currency which, in a few days thereafter was to be taxed 33⅓ per cent.

The board of State commissioners having adjourned, and one of its members being out of the State, it could not be convened in time to review our schedule of prices. Under this state of facts we have rearranged and re-examined our tariff of prices, so far as we have been advised of recent impressments, proposing, in this mode, to remedy any diminution which may have resulted from the action of Congress upon the currency. Therefore we assess the average of artillery or wagon horses or mules impressed since the passage of the currency bill on the 17th of February last at $600. This award will entitle each person to receive higher compensation accordingly as each horse or mule impressed may be considered as being a first, second, or third class artillery or wagon horse or mule, whether the parties appeal to our board or not, and the impressing officers should forthwith call on all those persons of whom they impressed horses or mules and propose a settlement upon the foregoing basis; but allowing to each person only such prices as first, second, or third class artillery or wagon horses or mules may have been estimated at by the local or county appraisers, assuming our average appraisement of $600 as a fair medium valuation. This, then, would allow a maximum price of $800 and a minimum price of $400, making $600 the average price, thus allowing more for first-class horses and mules, and proportionately less for the inferior, as they may fall below the grade of first-class, payment of whatever amount awarded to be made in the new issue of Treasury notes.

The impressing officers in those instances where no arbitrators or local appraisements for horses or mules impressed should in all such cases themselves re-estimate the value of horses or mules thus impressed, and allow in each case such additional

compensation as would, within the limits of our schedule rates, appear just and proper. But if, after this revaluation and settlement, any person should not be satisfied, the party could then appeal to our board and have the case reconsidered.

All appeals and communications for the board of commissioners should be addressed to D. Saunders Chilton, secretary of the board, Richmond, Va.

E. W. HUBARD,
ROBT. GIBBONEY,
WM. B. HARRISON,
Commissioners of Appraisements for the State of Virginia.

By order:

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

By command of the Secretary of War:

SAML. W. MELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER TROOPS,
Blandford, August 1, 1864.

Col. W. H. STEVENS,
Chief Engineer, Army of Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: On the night of the 30th a detachment of men under Lieutenant Wise commenced work at the crater at Pegram's salient, sinking shafts for the purpose of discovering the enemy's mine. Lieutenant Wise's report,* accompanying this, will give you the result of his examinations to this date. The detachment at Colquitt's salient continued the excavation of the gallery. No indications of the presence of the enemy mining has yet been discovered. During July 31 the indications of the enemy mining had to our men, at Gracie's, become so strong that you issued orders that the mines at this salient should be charged. The ammunition arrived late Sunday afternoon; no lanyards accompanied the articles forwarded by the Ordnance Department, and we were forced to fire our mines by the use of the safety fuse. I formed a detachment of men and in person proceeded to Gracie's mine. By the time we conveyed the powder and other materials to the mine the early part of the night had been consumed. It was 11 p. m. before we commenced work in placing the barrels of powder in the mines to be charged. I aided in person in forming the magazine, attaching the safety fuse to the powder and tamping the mine very efficiently aided by Mr. Blunt and Mr. Black, miners. By 9.15 a. m. August 1 we had the two mines charged, the safety fuse (one piece to each barrel), in all four pieces, extended to the mouth of the shaft and prepared to fire at the signal. A flag of truce having been arranged we waited until hostilities were resumed, when, the arrangements being completed, the signal to fire was given by General Gracie. Mr. Black promptly applied the fire to the fuse, and after waiting three-quarters of an hour, and no explosion having taken place, went into the mine and found that three pieces of the safety fuse had gone out and the fourth burning slowly. A short distance from the shaft he cut off the burning fuse, which, on examination, proved to be very defective and perfectly valueless. To this the failure to fire the mines can be charged.

Very respectfully, &c.,

H. T. DOUGLAS,
Captain, &c.

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* See p. 1160.

HEADQUARTERS ANDERSON'S BRIGADE,
New Market, August 1, 1864.

Maj. W. F. JONES,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report that in obedience to instructions from division headquarters, I ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Carmical, commanding Seventh Georgia Regiment, with his regiment to make the reconnaissance of Deep Bottom. As the result of his observation he reports driving the picket-line of the enemy some 200 yards, and could not advance farther without too much risk, and as he heard orders given to turn his right flank he withdrew. His line was formed beyond Four-Mile Creek, the left resting on the creek, but in advancing this flank was thrown forward. Colonel Carmical is under the impression, from the resistance met with, that there is a considerable force. We had two men slightly wounded in the skirmish, and found two of the enemy dead. Lieutenant Wade, Eighth Georgia, was on a scout this morning as far as Malvern Hill, and reports some five or six gun-boats in the river between that point and about due south of my headquarters on the Hill, a large camp at City Point, probably hospitals, and a large number of vessels in the river, supposed transports. Some of my pickets reported this morning that they heard lumber being thrown about as if the pontoon bridge was being taken up below Bailey's Run. This is only supposition, of course, as we have not been able to see the bridge from our position. I can discover pickets on the works about that point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. ANDERSON,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION,
August 1, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the lieutenant-general. I will send out scouting parties from all the brigades in the morning. Other scouts out throughout the division report an enemy still in my front behind breast-works.

C. W. FIELD,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 24. } HDQRS. ARTILLERY, FIRST CORPS,
August 1, 1864.

Maj. W. M. Owen having reported to these headquarters for artillery orders from headquarters Artillery, Army of Northern Virginia, is hereby assigned to the command of Major Gibbes' battalion artillery.

By order of Lieut. Col. Frank Huger:

J. C. HASKELL,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, *August 2, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

Have ordered the promotion of General Mahone to date from the day of his memorable service, 30th of July. Have directed the appointment,

temporary, of Captain Girardey as recommended. Has your attention been called to Colonel Dunovant or De Saussure, temporarily to supply place of General Elliott? I have inquired as to position of Colonel Butler, and whether he can be detached.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 181. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, August 2, 1864.*

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XIX. Lieut. Col. Archer Anderson, assistant adjutant-general, Provisional Army, C. S., will proceed to the Army of Northern Virginia upon inspection duty, in accordance with instructions of Col. R. H. Chilton, assistant inspector-general.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

SAML. W. MELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 52. } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *August 2, 1864.*

As some misapprehension seems to prevail as regards the rights of certain enlisted men now in the army who claim a discharge from active service under the provisions of paragraph VIII of General Orders, No. 42, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, the following is published for the information of all concerned:

I. Volunteers now in the army who were forty-five years of age previous to the 17th day of February last, or who have not reached the age of eighteen years, are entitled to a discharge from their present service at the expiration of the term for which they were enlisted.

II. Men who were brought into service under the operation of the acts of Congress of April and September, 1862, and who were forty-five years of age previous to the 17th day of February last, are entitled to a discharge from active service at the expiration of three years from the date of their enrollment.

III. Persons who were once discharged from service by reason of having furnished substitutes, who have been brought back into service by the operation of the act of Congress approved on the 5th day of January last, and published in General Orders, No. 3, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, and who were forty-five years of age previous to the 17th day of February last, are entitled to a discharge from active service at the expiration of three years from date of their last enrollment.

IV. All residents of the Confederate States who had not reached the age of forty-five years previous to the 17th day of February, 1864, or who, at the expiration of their present term, have passed the age of eighteen years, are retained in active service "during the present war with the United States," by the provisions of the act of Congress published in General Orders, No. 26, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office of the 1st of March, 1864.

By command of General Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 62. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND SOUTH. VA., *August 2, 1864.*

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IV. Colquitt's brigade will rejoin Hoke's division, and Gracie's brigade will report back to Major-General Johnson.

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By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER TROOPS,
August 2, 1864.

Col. T. M. R. TALCOTT,
Commanding First Regiment Engineer Troops:

COLONEL: I submit to you the following report on the condition and character of our mining operations on General Beauregard's lines:

At Pegram's salient the mine No. 2 sustained no injury from the explosion on the 30th; Mine No. 1 being nearer the mine of the enemy its entrance was closed up and destroyed. We have sunk shafts on the edge of the Crater at three points for the purpose of discovering the entrance to the galleries of the enemy. Lieut. E. N. Wise, in charge at this point, reports favorable signs as indicating the near approach to one of their galleries. The work on two of these shafts has been discontinued, the force being concentrated at one shaft (the one that offers the most favorable signs of the presence of the enemy's mine). At Gracie's mine I have to report as the result of our operations that on the 1st of August we charged two mines, each with 225 pounds powder, contained in four barrels. The explosion failed from the inferior quality of the safety fuse used (being the best furnished by the Ordnance Department). Last night I ordered a detachment to commence work at this mine, in removing the tamping and charge from the mines. The day detachment continued the work. The powder has been removed and placed in the magazine, and it is expected that by night the two galleries at this mine will be cleared out, the mud and water removed, and it will be in order for the extension of gallery No. 2, the one we have been at work on up to July 31, when we suspended work in consequence of the supposed near approach of the enemy's mine. At this mine the main gallery was extended twenty-five feet from the shaft, and from this another gallery (a common gallery two feet nine inches by four feet six inches) was continued an additional distance of twenty feet in the same direction and toward the enemy's sap-roller to our left. At a point in the main gallery twenty feet and a half from the shaft, another main or principal gallery (full size, three feet two inches by six feet) was driven a distance of seventeen feet. This gallery is now prepared to extend toward the front, branching off at an angle of 45° toward the second sap-roller of the enemy's (the one to our right and opposite the large oak tree at the right end of our picket-line). To-night the sand-bags and other material remaining in this mine, and which have been removed to the entrance of the mine, will be taken out, the sand wasted, and the bags returned to headquarters.

At Colquitt's salient the main gallery has been extended fifty-eight feet and a quarter, a branch of the main gallery to the right of twelve feet six inches; thence a change of direction at right angles to the left

and parallel to the first gallery and toward Hare's house of twenty-two feet, a total distance of thirty-four feet six inches. At the end of the first main gallery a branch turns off at right angles to the left a distance of thirteen feet six inches, and at eight feet and a half from the first gallery another branch turns off at right angles to the right, and has been driven a distance of ten feet two inches. Continued this gallery, reducing it to the dimensions of a common gallery, viz, two feet six inches, and extended this gallery a total distance of twenty-five feet two inches. This mine I have turned over to Major-General Hoke, and have ordered the miners of Clingman's brigade to report to him, and he has promised hereafter to furnish the proper number of officers and men to prosecute the work vigorously.

The total distance made at all the mines since I took charge up to July 29 is 368 feet 9 inches. Since that date have extended the mines an additional distance of ten feet eight inches, and a total distance of 379 feet 5 inches. Sunk shafts at Pegram's four additional feet and enlarged them. Sunk shafts at Gracie's and Colquitt's, included in the distance mined, is about five feet. Mine No. 1, at Pegram's, had to be enlarged, its direction changed, and about the same distance in Mine No. 2 that had to be framed up. We had to take out the frames in consequence of their being too small and insert larger ones. The work of enlarging and changing the galleries involved more labor than if they had been commenced by us originally. We have on hand a good supply of frames, planking, and other material required in mining.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HUGH THOS. DOUGLAS,

Captain, Engineer Troops, in Charge Mining, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER TROOPS,

Blandford, August 2, 1864.

Col. T. M. R. TALCOTT,

Commanding First Regiment Engineer Troops:

COLONEL: At your request I make the following report as respects the organization of the mining detachments for each mine:

I have organized two detachments, one to work from 8 a. m. to 8 p. m., the other from 8 p. m. to 8 a. m. Each detachment consists of two reliefs; each relief of one miner, one shoveller, one wheeler, one man at the bottom of the shaft to fill the basket, two men at the windlass or ropes, and two men to move the earth to the rear, under one non-commissioned officer. As the distance increases additional men will be required in each gallery, and as the distance to the rear where the earth is wasted increases additional men are required.

The force required to work one mine with only one gallery will be as follows:

	Officers.	Men.	Total.
First detachment:			
First relief	1	8	9
Second relief	1	8	9
Second detachment:			
First relief	1	8	9
Second relief	1	8	9
Total	4	32	36

If the additional man be required in the gallery and two extra men at the shaft to each relief, this will increase the force to forty-eight men. When the mines are extended, as is now the case at Colquitt's, so that an extra set of men can work in an additional gallery, an additional force will be required of one miner, one shoveler, two wheelers, and two men at the shaft, or a total force of twenty-four men. One non-commissioned officer can take charge of the two reliefs and work them, each detachment being in charge of a commissioned officer. The reliefs generally prefer to work out their full time and then to go off duty; this gives them eighteen hours to rest. At Gracie's mine two detachments are required, as only one mine can be extended judiciously at this point. At Colquitt's four detachments can work, two reliefs working together in the mine, driving forward two galleries. At Pegram's two detachments are as full a force as can be judiciously worked.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HUGH THOS. DOUGLAS,
Captain, Engineer Troops, in Charge Mining, &c.

ENGINEER CAMP, *August 2, 1864.*

Capt. H. T. DOUGLAS:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of operations and observations at the crater made by the explosion of the mine on Saturday morning last:

When you and myself made a partial examination of the Crater on Saturday afternoon we found it so full of the enemy's dead and wounded that nothing could be accomplished then toward discovering the gallery through which the enemy sprung the mine. On Saturday morning, July 31, 1864, I proceed to the scene of the explosion with ten men and at once commenced work, sinking a shaft. At 12 m. you sent me another detachment of ten men, and I commenced another shaft at the north end of the Crater and another at the south end. I worked until 7 p. m. without finding anything important. I took another detachment down on Monday. Upon examination of the shaft at the north end I noticed a small crater, which I supposed to be one of the enemy's chambers. The bottom of this shaft is about twenty-four feet from top of the present parapet. At 6 p. m. there were three small excavations on right, left, and center of shaft, which I think have something to do with one of the enemy's smaller galleries. Have discovered nothing in the other two shafts. My opinion is that the main gallery comes from the right of the enemy's lines. Did no work last night, it being dangerous from fear of sides of shaft caving in.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. N. WISE,
First Lieutenant, Engineer Troops.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 3, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS:

You will receive a letter from me by courier to-morrow morning. If after that you think it desirable I will go to Richmond.

R. E. LEE.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 182. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, August 3, 1864.*

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X. Capt. A. H. Polk, assistant adjutant-general, is assigned to duty with Col. J. B. Palmer, commanding, &c., at Asheville, N. C., and will report accordingly.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

SAML. W. MELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Petersburg, Va., August 4, 1864.

[His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS:]

Mr. PRESIDENT: In my dispatch of this evening I informed you of the report that forty-six transports (seventeen of which contained cavalry) loaded with troops had descended James River up to last night. This information comes from Lieutenant Woodley, of the Signal Corps, stationed at Fort Boykin. Lieutenant Welch, of Gary's scouts, stationed on the north side of James River, reported up to last night nine steamers descending the river with troops, four of them conveying horses. Some of these, he stated, were wounded men and some prisoners. He does not, therefore, entirely corroborate Lieutenant Woodley's statement. I think it probable that they have sent to Washington that portion of the Nineteenth Corps which was lately operating on the north side of the James River, with some cavalry. A scout reported that on Sunday, the 31st ultimo, a body of cavalry, estimated at two brigades, moved toward James River in the direction of City Point, and this may be the force of cavalry which has been shipped north. I fear that this force is intended to operate against General Early, and when added to that already opposed to him, may be more than he can manage. Their object may be to drive him out of the Valley and complete the devastation they commenced when they were ejected from it. General Grant's plan of operations here appears to be to mine and bombard our lines, with a view of driving us from them, and as he is very strongly fortified he can operate with fewer troops and enable him to detach a sufficient force for the purpose indicated. The largest force which I can detach would be Kershaw's and Field's divisions, and that would leave not a man out of the trenches for any emergency which might arise. If it is their intention to endeavor to overwhelm Early I think it better to detach these troops than to hazard his destruction and that of our railroads, &c., north of Richmond, and therefore submit the question to the better judgment of Your Excellency.

On the 29th ultimo McCausland's and Johnson's brigades of cavalry crossed the Potomac at Clear Spring, with orders to proceed to Chambersburg, thence west to Cumberland and destroy the bridges over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and the machinery, &c., at the coal-pits in the neighborhood, and after gathering all the cattle in Allegheny and adjacent counties in Pennsylvania to return through Hardy. To cover this movement two divisions of infantry moved to Williamsport, and a third brigade of cavalry proceeded to Hagerstown, where they burned a train of twenty or thirty cars, loaded with stores. On the 30th ultimo General Early returned to Martinsburg by the west road to

avoid observation. Learning that the Sixth and Nineteenth Corps were moving up from Washington, the Sixth Corps having reached Halltown, he determined to fall back to Winchester, where he could deliver battle to greater advantage. I do not think that the whole of the Nineteenth Corps could have reached the Valley, but it seems that General Early's presence in the Valley tends to excite the apprehensions of the Federal authorities and to cause a detachment of troops from Grant. If Morgan could have struck the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad in the neighborhood of Cheat River, and have proceeded into Washington County, Pa., as I had projected, he would have created a valuable diversion in Early's favor.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

BURWELL'S BAY, *August 4, 1864.*

Capt. WILLIAM N. BARKER,
In charge of Signal Bureau:

SIR: We crossed the river last night, and beg to submit the following report:

The enemy are moving all of their forces from Yorktown and Williamsburg. Their destination supposed to be Washington. Hancock's corps lost heavily in the recent engagement, losing more than one-half his whole force. A great many sick and wounded are at present collected at City Point. There seems to be great activity among the enemy's vessels. They are running day and part of the night.

Very respectfully,

JNO. F. MOORE,
In Charge of Boat.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 183. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, August 4, 1864.*

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XVII. Paragraph XXXII, Special Orders, No. 154,* current series, is amended so as to read: Capt. W. H. Whitner, assistant adjutant-general, is assigned to duty with the division of Maj. Gen. B. R. Johnson, Provisional Army, C. S., and will report accordingly.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

SAML. W. MELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER DEPOT,
Blandford, August 5, 1864.

Col. T. M. R. TALCOTT,
Commanding First Regiment Engineer Troops:

COLONEL: I have the honor to make the following report of operations since my report of the 2d instant:

August 3, at Gracie's mine the night detachment had removed all the material out of the galleries, filled the sand-bags, removed the water, and left the mine in good condition for the day detachment that

* See Vol. XL, Part II, p. 710.

commenced work extending gallery No. 2. The night detachment continued the work and extended this gallery sixteen feet, a total distance of thirty-two feet from the point at which it branches off from the main gallery. On the 4th work was resumed in this gallery, and a chamber for the mine excavated to the right and at right angle to the second gallery, a distance of four feet and a half. On the night of the 4th a detachment carried into the mine eight barrels of powder, weighing 850 pounds, and placed them within the two mines, 425 pounds in each, tamped the powder barrels and galleries up to a level with the top of the barrels, two feet from the bottom of the gallery. The mines are now charged and ready for the powder train and safety-fuse. August 3, sent a detachment to work at Colquitt's mine; they extended the right-hand gallery four feet and a half, the night detachment an additional distance of two feet six inches; a distance for the day's work of seven feet. The total length of this gallery, after it branches off from the main gallery, is twelve feet and a half to the first turn, thence twenty-nine feet; a total length of forty-one feet and a half. By orders from you I discontinued work at this mine.

Lieut. E. N. Wise, with a detachment, continued work at Pegram's crater during the 3d. · On the 4th he turned the work over to Captain Conway. The total length of the different galleries extended up to this date under my orders amounts to 402 feet 5 inches. I have made a commencement toward the organization of the company for work in depot. On the 4th made sixty feet of cotton tubing for powder train to be used in mine, two wheelbarrows, two sets of curbing for shaft, sawed off planks for curbing and sheeting for mines, got out and fitted box-tubing for mine, and repaired tools at forge, made one boring tool, &c.

August 5, at 6.30 o'clock the mines at Gracie's were fired and blown up. I expect to be able by the 6th to have a supply of material on hand so as to anticipate all the wants of the different mining parties.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HUGH THOS. DOUGLAS,
Captain, Engineer Troops, Charge Engineer Depot.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 185.

ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, August 6, 1864.

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LVIII. Maj. Charles A. Snowden, quartermaster, &c., is assigned to duty with Maj. Gen. R. Ransom's command, and will report accordingly.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

SAML. W. MELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 6, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

An experimental mine was fired successfully last night in front of Gracie's line. Enemy appeared much alarmed. All quiet to-day.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY DEFENSES,
Richmond, August 7, 1864.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: His Excellency the President is, as you are aware, very desirous that the most effectual measures which our means will admit shall, with the least delay, be employed in an effort to dislodge the enemy from his intrenched position on the north side of James River, at Deep Bottom. The President is also naturally very anxious that the navigation of James River by the enemy should be made as difficult and as dangerous as possible. To effect these objects, I have proposed, with the sanction of the President, General R. E. Lee, and Lieutenant-General Ewell, to locate mortar batteries, and, if found practicable, to employ several 8-inch siege howitzers as auxiliaries, the trails to be sunk to give the necessary elevation. Unfortunately there are within this department but two 10-inch mortars, and Colonel Gorgas informs me that, for want of the proper iron, which can only be obtained from Staunton, several weeks must elapse before even a single additional mortar can be furnished. The President has been made acquainted with these facts, and although the means at my disposal may prove inadequate to the end proposed (*i. e.*, dislodging the enemy by rendering his pontoon bridge useless to him), he nevertheless desires the experiment to be tried. From the character of the enemy's position, which is such as to enable him to use his gun-boats with great effect in connection with his land batteries, and in view of the strength of his fortifications, which can only be approached over an open plain, I am satisfied that an attempt to take his works by assault would result in failure, unless he can be so demoralized by alarming him for his communications and depriving him of the hope of assistance by the bridge as to render his resistance to an assault less determined than it is likely otherwise to be.

It is proposed to use the two mortars and auxiliary howitzers to enfilade the bridge, while a cross-fire from Tilghman's Gate with rifled field-pieces shall also be maintained. This appears to me to be the only practicable plan of dislodging the enemy from the threatening position he has so long held. It may prove a failure because of the insufficient number of our mortars to keep up a continuous fire; with a battery of six instead of two of these pieces, I am confident he could be compelled to withdraw by their fire alone. The difficulty with the howitzers will be to occupy a position near enough to the bridge to render their comparative short range effective, and this may prove to be impracticable. It is important to open fire as soon as possible, and I had made my arrangements to get everything under way to-day, but on applying for sling carts to transport the mortars, I am officially informed that one of the only two in this department has been ordered to General Lee's army near Petersburg, where it will probably be detained at least a week, and that the axle of the other is broken and unserviceable. This will cause great delay, unless arrangements can be made to give me the use of the cart before it is sent to General Lee's army.

I have always regarded it as all important to a successful use of field artillery against the enemy's gun-boats and transports that he should be compelled to abandon his position at Deep Bottom. The reasons for this are too obvious to need explanation, but whether he maintains this position or not, our operations with field artillery can, I am confident, be made

greatly more effective than they have hitherto been, by assigning this service to a special organization, whose exclusive charge it shall be to harass and damage the enemy on his river communications. This will require that the utmost possible mobility be given to the artillery that a sufficient number of guns adapted to the purpose be always ready for this service without endangering other equally or more important interests by withdrawing them too far from our defensive lines, and, if possible, an adequate support of the most reliable cavalry we can get, whose exclusive duty it shall be to aid and protect the operations of the artillery. I propose, then, that three batteries of four pieces, each under the command of an energetic and competent field officer, be at once thoroughly equipped as horse artillery. This will require that, in addition to the usual six draft horses to each piece and caisson, a sufficient number of horses be furnished to mount all the cannoneers; this is indispensable to the efficient service of the batteries. Two extra horses without harness will be necessary to each piece to meet casualties, and two for horse holders to each detachment. A battery of four pieces thus equipped will require fifty-six additional horses, and three batteries will require 168. I propose to place these three batteries under the immediate command of Maj. A. W. Stark, in every respect a most competent officer. He now commands two batteries of four Napoleons each, thoroughly equipped in all respects except the additional horses and their accouterments. But I also require a battery of four 10-pounder Parrotts; this I have not got. Unless such a battery can be supplied already prepared for this service from some other command, it will be necessary to equip one throughout. If the requisite number of horses can be obtained, all the rest can be accomplished without difficulty and with very little delay. I have already taken the necessary measures for that end, if it should become necessary, and I have also an organized and well-instructed company, the Louisiana Guard Artillery, under Capt. C. A. Green, now dismounted, ready to take the battery at once. This arrangement, however, will require sixty-two more horses to be supplied than would be necessary if a battery already equipped should be assigned, making the whole number of horses to be furnished 230 instead of 168.

I will add that in my judgment the supporting cavalry force should not be less than 1,500 men, commanded by an officer of experience and of approved ability in that arm of service.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. PEMBERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Artillery.

PETERSBURG, *August 8, 1864—4 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Stony Creek:

Have you received further information of departure of enemy's cavalry? Are you able to take the field?

R. E. LEE,
General.

BEAUREGARD'S COMMAND.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD.

JOHNSON'S DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. BUSHROD R. JOHNSON.

Gracie's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ARCHIBALD GRACIE, Jr.

41st Alabama, Col. Martin L. Stansel.
43d Alabama, Lieut. Col. John J. Jolly.
59th Alabama, Lieut. Col. George W. Huguley.
60th Alabama, Col. John W. A. Sanford.
23d Alabama Battalion, Lieut. Samuel Salter.

Elliott's Brigade.

Col. FITZ WILLIAM MCMASTER.

17th South Carolina, Maj. John R. Culp.
18th South Carolina, Capt. R. H. Glenn.
22d South Carolina, Lieut. T. N. Able.
23d South Carolina, Capt. H. H. Lesesne.
26th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. J. H. Hudson.

Ransom's Brigade.

Col. LEE M. MCAFEE.

24th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. John L. Harris.
25th North Carolina, Capt. Matthew N. Love.
35th North Carolina, Capt. Sandford G. Howie.
49th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. James T. Davis.
56th North Carolina, Capt. Lawson Harrill.

Wise's Brigade.

Col. JOHN T. GOODE.

26th Virginia, Capt. Napoleon B. Street.
34th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Randolph Harrison.
46th Virginia, Capt. John H. White.
59th Virginia, Maj. Robert. G. Mosby.

HOKE'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. ROBERT F. HOKE.

Clingman's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS L. CLINGMAN.

8th North Carolina, Maj. Rufus A. Barrier.
31st North Carolina, Col. John V. Jordan.
51st North Carolina, Col. Hector McKethan.
61st North Carolina, Maj. Henry Harding.

Colquitt's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ALFRED H. COLQUITT.

6th Georgia, Col. John T. Lofton.
19th Georgia, Col. James H. Neal.
23d Georgia, Col. James H. Huggins.
27th Georgia, Maj. Hezekiah Bussey.
28th Georgia, Capt. John A. Johnson.

Martin's Brigade.

Col. CHARLES T. ZACHRY.

17th North Carolina, Capt. John L. Swain.
42d North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Charles W. Bradshaw.
66th North Carolina, Col. John H. Nethercutt.

Hagood's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHNSON HAGOOD.

11th South Carolina, Maj. John J. Gooding.
21st South Carolina, Lieut. N. A. Easterling.
25th South Carolina, Capt. William B. Gordon.
27th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. Julius A. Blake.
7th South Carolina Battalion, Maj. James H. Rion.

* Or "the two divisions of infantry and the artillery commanded by General G. T. Beauregard," at Petersburg, Va. Inspected August 8–29, 1864.

ARTILLERY.

Col. HILARY P. JONES.

Read's Battalion.	*Moseley's Battalion.*
Maj. JOHN P. W. READ.	Lieut. Col. EDGAR F. MOSELEY.
Blount's battery.	Cumming's battery.
Macon's battery.	Miller's battery.
Marshall's battery.	Slaten's battery.
Sullivan's battery.	Young's battery.
Boggs' Battalion.	*Coit's Battalion.*
Maj. FRANCIS J. BOGGS.	Maj. JAMES C. COIT.
Martin's battery.	Bradford's battery.
Sturdivant's battery.	Pegram's battery.
	Wright's battery.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., August 9, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: I have to apologize to you for not sooner having acknowledged and replied to your letter of the 1st instant relative to the order suggested concerning deserters. Your communication was promptly laid before the President, but owing to the pressure of important engagements I only on yesterday received his reply in the form of an indorsement upon a letter from myself. I send both as the best mode of conveying the exact wish of the President.* I may add that my own views concur entirely with your opinion, and would approve such an order as you propose.

Very respectfully,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 187. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, August 9, 1864.

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XI. Capt. R. M. Sims, assistant adjutant-general, is relieved from service with Brigadier-General Bratton's brigade, and is assigned to duty with Brigadier-General Gary's cavalry brigade. He will report accordingly without delay.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

SAML. W. MELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* Inclosures not found, but see General Orders, No. 54, August 10, p. 1169.

PETERSBURG, *August 9, 1864—9.30 p. m.*

General G. E. PICKETT,
Hancock's House:

Order Poague's battery to take position against Dutch Gap. Turn every one of your heavy guns at Howlett's on them. Send a courier to Captain Mitchell for assistance from the fleet.

R. E. LEE.

PETERSBURG, VA., *August 9, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. J. C. PEMBERTON,
Richmond, Va.:

Telegram received. I have not a battery to spare. Am trying to get more guns here.

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY, THIRD CORPS,
August 9, 1864.

General PENDLETON,
Commanding Artillery:

GENERAL: Nearly the whole of the available force of the artillery is at work day and night on the works alluded to in Captain Pendleton's note, and infantry details are made for the same purpose. The detail this morning was driven away by the enemy's shells.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. L. WALKER,
Colonel and Chief of Artillery, Third Corps.

Inspection Reports, Pickett's division, August 9–29.

Barton's Brigade.

(August 10, 1864.)

Col. WILLIAM R. AYLETT.

9th Virginia, Col. James J. Phillips.
14th Virginia, Col. William White.
38th Virginia, Lieut. Col. George K. Griggs.
53d Virginia, Maj. John C. Timberlake.
57th Virginia, Col. Clement R. Fontaine.

Hunton's Brigade.

(August 9, 1864.)

Brig. Gen. EPPA HUNTON.

8th Virginia, Col. Norborne Berkeley.
18th Virginia, Col. Henry A. Carrington.
19th Virginia, Capt. Waller M. Boyd.
28th Virginia, Lieut. Col. William L. Wingfield.
56th Virginia, Capt. John Richardson.

Corse's Brigade.

(August 12, 1864.)

Brig. Gen. MONTGOMERY D. CORSE.

15th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Emmett M. Morrison.
17th Virginia, Col. Arthur Herbert.
29th Virginia, Col. James Giles.
30th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Robert S. Chew.
32d Virginia, Col. Edgar B. Montague.

Terry's Brigade.

(August 11, 1864.)

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM R. TERRY.

1st Virginia, Lieut. Col Frank H. Langley.
3d Virginia, Col. Joseph Mayo, jr.
7th Virginia, Col. Charles C. Flowerree.
11th Virginia, Capt. John Holmes Smith.
24th Virginia, Capt. William W. Bentley.

AUGUST 10, 1864.

Col. S. W. MELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, War Office, Richmond:

Don't let the proposition for the relief of the poor people here be lost sight of. The chief commissary states that he has heard of no action in the matter.

W. H. TAYLOR.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
No. 54. } *August 10, 1864.*

All persons connected with this army who are absent without proper authority are enjoined to return to their respective commands without delay. This order is intended to embrace those who have remained absent beyond the time limited for their return, or after the cause of their absence has ceased. All such persons are admonished that every day they remain from their post adds to the dangers and labors of their comrades, while it increases their own responsibility to the laws they are violating. The commanding general deems it only necessary to remind those who have erred through thoughtlessness or negligence of the shame and disgrace they will bring upon themselves and their families if they shrink from the manful discharge of duty in the hour of their country's need, and leave their homes to be defended and their independence to be secured by the unaided courage of others. To those whose absence has been prolonged until they have incurred the guilt of desertion, he can only say that a prompt and voluntary return to duty alone can palliate their offense and entitle them to expect any clemency. If arrested and brought back, justice to the faithful and true as well as the interests and safety of the country, requires that they shall suffer the extreme penalty of the law.

R. E. LEE,
General.

PETERSBURG, VA., *August 10, 1864.*

General R. S. EWELL,
Commanding, Chaffin's Bluff:

I think that the camp at Dutch Gap is probably the marines. Could not Captain Mitchell shell it while Pickett opened on land batteries and you attacked it? They will soon be fortified.

R. E. LEE.

RICHMOND, VA., *August 11, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE,
Dunn's Hill, near Petersburg:

Am informed by Mr. Ould that nearly all of Sheridan's cavalry were reported to have gone up the Potomac; also some infantry; that a movement against the Weldon railroad by infantry is proposed. It is thought idle to attack your intrenchments, but feasible to starve you out. An unofficial dispatch of 11th instant again announces disaster to McCausland and Johnson near Moorefield.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., August 11, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

Information through signal office, said to be reliable, from Washington, of the 8th instant, states Grant and staff arrived in Washington from Baltimore on the 6th, and that his army has been moving away rapidly from Petersburg since his unsuccessful mining feat. Troops and munitions in large numbers and quantities have recently landed at Alexandria, Annapolis, Baltimore, and Washington from Grant's army. This accords with information from same source of 5th and 6th, which states that Sheridan and Hooker were in Washington; that 2,500 cavalry had arrived; that Grant and staff had gone to Harper's Ferry, and that Sheridan's cavalry, 8,000, were all in Washington. Total force for operations in Maryland believed to be 50,000; total left at Petersburg about the same. Troops being sent to Harper's Ferry and that region. Brigade of cavalry with artillery passed through Washington on 7th. You must estimate the worth of these reports.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 11, 1864.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON:

Your dispatch of to-day received. General Grant has been at Harper's Ferry; General Sheridan has been placed in command of that department; the greater part of his cavalry has gone with him. The part of the Nineteenth Corps that has been serving here, and probably the Eighteenth Corps, are the only infantry, I believe, that have left General Meade.

R. E. LEE.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 189. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., August 11, 1864.

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XXX. Brig. Gen. George H. Steuart is assigned to duty in the Army of Northern Virginia, and will report for orders to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

SAML. W. MELTON.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 11, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. H. ANDERSON:

GENERAL: The Washington Chronicle of the 8th states that General Sheridan has superseded General Hunter in command of the troops on the upper Potomac, and I believe that the greater part of his cavalry has been detached by General Grant and sent to Washington and Baltimore. This morning General Hampton commences his march for Culpeper, with his division, to report to you. It is desirable that the

presence of our troops be felt beyond the Rappahannock. You had better take position north of Culpeper Court-House and let the cavalry operate north of Rappahannock River. Should the enemy's forces move west of the Blue Ridge range, leaving Washington uncovered, the cavalry might cross the Potomac east of the mountains and demonstrate against that city. Should he concentrate all his cavalry in the Valley, unless it can be withdrawn by other operations ours must meet it, and General Hampton must take command of all the cavalry when united. Any enterprise that can be undertaken to injure the enemy, distract or separate his forces, embarrass his communications on the Potomac or on land, is desirable. If you can learn what troops have been detached from Grant's army let me know. Prisoners and deserters state the Eighteenth Corps and the portion of the Nineteenth operating here have left.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
No. 189. } *August 11, 1864.*

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V. Col. John D. Barry, having been appointed to the temporary rank of brigadier-general, is for the present assigned to the command of Lane's brigade, Wilcox's division, Third Corps, and will report accordingly.

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VII. Maj. Gen. Wade Hampton is assigned to the command of the cavalry of this army. Division commanders will report to him accordingly.

VIII. The following officers of the general staff heretofore attached to the headquarters of the cavalry will report for duty without delay to Major-General Hampton, commanding, &c.: Maj. H. B. McClellan, assistant adjutant-general; Maj. A. R. Venable, assistant adjutant-general; Maj. George Freaner, assistant inspector-general; Maj. N. R. Fitzhugh, chief quartermaster; Maj. W. J. Johnson, chief commissary of subsistence; Capt. J. M. Hanger, assistant quartermaster; Surg. J. B. Fontaine, medical director; Capt. Charles Grattan, chief ordnance officer; Maj. G. M. Ryals, provost marshal.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 11, 1864.

General WADE HAMPTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I desire you to proceed with your division to Culpeper. On arrival you will report to Lieut. Gen. R. H. Anderson, commanding in that quarter. The object is to threaten the enemy's flank and rear should he move across the Blue Ridge into the Valley, and to retain his forces about Washington for its protection. It is desirable that the

presence of the troops in that region be felt, and should the enemy move up the Potomac, leaving his capital uncovered, that the cavalry cross the Potomac, if practicable, east of the Blue Ridge. Should the enemy's cavalry be concentrated in the Valley, ours must meet it, if it cannot cause its withdrawal by other operations. Specific instructions will be given you by General Anderson.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 12, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President of the Confederate States:

Mr. PRESIDENT: I received last night your dispatch of the 11th, giving information of the enemy's movements. I was aware of the departure of a large part of Sheridan's cavalry, and that he had taken command of the Federal forces in the Valley. Torbert's division is the only one that has yet reached that region, and I am not positive whether the whole of the other divisions have gone or not, though it is so reported. I thought it best, however, to move Hampton's division to Culpeper, and it commenced its march yesterday. W. H. F. Lee's division is retained, and I hope it will be sufficient for the protection of the railroad. If I find that the enemy's cavalry here is superior to ours I will recall some of Hampton's. I have assigned General H. to the command of the cavalry. General Butler, he thinks, is best qualified to command his division; as he does so now by right of seniority I have recommended no change. The forces opposed to General Early consist of the Sixth and Eighth, two divisions of the Nineteenth, and the Thirteenth Corps; the latter recently arrived from New Orleans. General Early was at Newtown on the 11th, and the enemy, who, for the two previous days had been endeavoring to approach his rear, was apparently moving toward Front Royal. I have directed General Anderson to move toward Thornton's Gap and be governed by circumstances. General Early reports that General Bradley Johnson's brigade had been surprised in camp near Moorefield and routed, losing four guns. I have directed that if General J. is to blame he must be relieved from command. I went up to Howlett's Thursday morning, having heard that the enemy had thrown a body of troops on the neck at Dutch Gap, with a view of endeavoring to drive them off. Their position was about two and a half miles from the battery, and Major Smith reported, from his experience on former occasions, owing to inferior powder, he could not be certain of throwing his shot more than 1,200 yards. I signalled to General Ewell to attack them from his side and to arrange with Captain Mitchell to shell them from his gun-boats. This I hoped would have been done that afternoon, but he could not complete his arrangements until yesterday afternoon, and then had to suspend the attack for an exchange of prisoners previously arranged. The force, I understand, is composed partly of negroes, and that they are engaged in cutting a canal through the neck. What use they will make of it I do not see, unless their object is to turn Pickett's left. I have posted Lieutenant-Colonel Poague's battalion of artillery on the heights of Proctor's Creek, west of Howlett's farm, and will commence

a heavy battery on the river in that vicinity as soon as possible. Perhaps it is thought the James River can be so reduced as to prevent the navigation of our naval boats.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

P. S.—General Grant is reported to have returned from Harper's Ferry. He was at Old Point on the 8th, and a deserter states he and Butler were at Dutch Gap yesterday.

R. E. L.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 12, 1864.

General R. S. EWELL,
Chaffin's Bluff:

Deserter reports that men at Dutch Gap are volunteers, paid 40 cents extra for digging, their purpose being to dig a canal. If they cannot be stopped arrangements must be made to make the canal useless by choosing positions and erecting batteries, &c. See what can be done.

R. E. LEE.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 10. } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *August 12, 1864.*

In accordance with paragraph VII, Special Orders, No. 189, headquarters Army Northern Virginia, 11th of August, 1864, I hereby assume command of the cavalry of the Army of Northern Virginia. Orders heretofore published for the government of the cavalry are reaffirmed.

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

AUGUST 13, 1864.

Captain DAVIDSON:

Firing has been going on all day from our gun-boats and the battery of light artillery in position at Signal Hill (Rockbridge battery) on the enemy at Dutch Gap. Our firing was warmly returned by the enemy's gun-boats, assisted by the shore batteries at Baldwin's. I am happy to say no casualties yet on our side. The Rockbridge battery of light artillery did great execution among the enemy's works at Dutch Gap. The only damage done us by the enemy was a large shell, which passed through an officer's bed, tearing up the floor and passing out at the back part of the house. No one inside at the time.

Very respectfully,

G. F. SMITH.

RICHMOND, *August 13, 1864.*

General S. COOPER:

(Through General R. E. Lee, commanding.)

GENERAL: I respectfully recommend that a bureau of cavalry be established here, subordinate to the Adjutant and Inspector General's

Department, and charged specially with the care, direction, and organization of the cavalry arm of the service. Some officer who has had experience in this branch of the service could be assigned to duty as chief of the new bureau.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 15, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

I think much good might be accomplished for the cavalry by establishing this bureau as a part of the Adjutant and Inspector's Department to take charge of the interests pertaining to all the cavalry service. I think that General R. S. Ewell is the officer best qualified by experience and information and service for the position of chief. Besides possessing great merit he has great claims.

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Second indorsement.]

DECEMBER 8, 1864.

Respectfully referred to General Ewell, whose attention is invited to the subject, and particularly to the indorsement of General Lee, and for his views.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND,
December 27, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

While willing to do anything that the Government may require, I much prefer active duty in the field should the interests of the service permit such assignment. I have been exclusively on similar duty for nearly a quarter of a century, and have no experience whatever as a bureau officer.

R. S. EWELL,
Lieutenant-General.

RICHMOND, *August 13, 1864.*

General S. COOPER:

(Through General R. E. Lee, commanding.)

GENERAL: I respectfully recommend that an inspector-general of cavalry, with the rank of colonel, be appointed, who will be charged with the duty of inspecting all the cavalry in the field under the directions, of course, from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office. Maj. H. von Borcke has been engaged partially on this duty, and I know of no one more competent in every way to fill the position proposed. He is a thoroughly educated soldier, has been serving most gallantly with the cavalry of this army for two years, and is now, un-

fortunately, disqualified to enter the field by a severe wound. Until he is able to resume his duties in the field he could admirably discharge those of inspector-general.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 15, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the consideration of the Department.

This is a matter for decision of the Adjutant and Inspector General, as it pertains to duties of his office. I can only state that Major von Borcke is an officer of singular worth and merit, of great zeal and gallantry, and merits every consideration.

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND,
December 28, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

As this was inclosed with the letter in reference to the Cavalry Bureau to me, I presume some expression of opinion is expected. As far as my knowledge of this officer extends I think this appointment a very suitable one.

R. S. EWELL,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 14, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond, Va.:

SIR: I regret to state that the desertions are increasing in some of the regiments of this army. General Hill reports, on the 12th instant, the desertion of a lieutenant and twenty-four men from the Ninth Alabama Regiment, ten men from Dement's (Maryland) battery, and six others from different regiments of Mahone's division. The troops are suffering much discomfort in the trenches, which may in part account for these desertions, and the circular issued by the Washington authorities, promising immunity to deserters and exemption from military service, may also have had its effect. From the statements of Federal deserters of the feeling in their army, I wrote to you some time since that I thought good might be done by issuing an order promising to receive their deserters and give them the means of reaching their homes by a safe route, and shall be glad to know your views on the subject. In some cases I believe particular causes of discontent are alleged to exist among our men. In the Ninth Alabama, from which there have been numerous desertions, it is said that the dismissal, last winter, of a favorite officer gave great dissatisfaction. The deserters are supposed to be making their way home with the intention of joining some cavalry commands that are being organized in Alabama, as I am informed. Unless this practice be checked, our army will be seriously weakened. Steps should be at once instituted to punish all officers who receive deserters into their commands, and I recommend that the or-

ganizations, said to be forming in Alabama, be at once visited, and in case deserters from this or any other army be found in them, the authority to raise them be revoked, and the officers and men placed in the regular service. I have before pointed out the evil consequences resulting, in my opinion, from granting authority to raise new companies, &c.; but, if it must be done, I advise that in all cases the presence of any absentee from another command in one of the new ones, whether the officer commanding was aware that the man had no right to enlist with him or not, be held a sufficient reason for revoking the authorization and breaking up the new organization. I see no other way of arresting the evil, and causing those engaged in recruiting new commands to take sufficient precautions against receiving deserters.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 14, 1864.

Lieutenant-General EWELL,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: On my visit to Howlett's house yesterday I had a full view of the ground at Dutch Gap and could see distinctly their tents and lines of intrenchments in front and rear of their position, with rifle-pits in advance. The men were concealed from view, probably driven under cover by our fire, which, from the gun-boats, was very accurate. No working parties were, of course, in sight, but I could see nothing to indicate the construction of a canal as is reported by prisoners and deserters from the enemy. Colonel Mayo, Third Virginia Regiment, who is stationed on the point at Howlett's farm, says that owing to the height of the bluffs at Dutch Gap and their being thickly covered with tall trees it is impossible to get a view of their operations from the highest point on his side. Small parties of the enemy, however, could be seen moving along the bank yesterday, and did not seem much embarrassed by the fire of our batteries or gun-boats. Officer commanding pickets on the margin of the river reported the enemy at work all night before last. Wagons were heard going and coming, unloading plank; also sounds of digging, driving stakes, &c. The details at work are estimated to be about 600 men. Can you not from some point on your side of the river discover what the enemy is doing? If we cannot arrest his work we must in other ways counteract his operations. Perhaps the navy might accomplish both objects. I desire you to see Captain Mitchell and see what can be done.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 14, 1864—9.15 a. m.

General C. W. FIELD,
Chaffin's Bluff:

What is the character of the force advancing against your left? Concentrate the cavalry in that quarter and dispose your infantry to resist it.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 14, 1864—12.15 p. m.

General C. W. FIELD,
Chaffin's Bluff:

You do not say whether the force of enemy is infantry or cavalry. You must call for re-enforcements from Richmond. There are none here. Give hour of dispatch.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 14, 1864.

General C. W. FIELD,
Chaffin's Bluff:

Have sent to halt Hampton, and ordered cavalry from this side. If unnecessary let me know. Aid the cavalry all you can and drive back enemy.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 14, 1864.

General C. W. FIELD,
Chaffin's Bluff:

Hampton will be with you this evening. Two brigades go from here. Major Anderson, with 500 cavalry, ordered from Richmond. This may be a feint to draw troops from here. Watch closely and return the troops here at the earliest moment.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 14, 1864.

General W. HAMPTON,
Beaver Dam, Va.:

Halt your command and return toward Richmond. Gregg's division is crossing at Deep Bottom. Send back an officer to ascertain position.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 14, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Maj. E. C. ANDERSON, Jr.,
Commanding Detachment Young's Brigade of Cavalry:
(Care of Lieutenant-General Ewell, Richmond.)

Proceed at once with your command to the vicinity of New Market and report to Major-General Field, commanding.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[AUGUST 15, 1864.—For General Orders, No. 65, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, Richmond, Va., relating to treatment of deserters from the Union Army, see inclosure, Mott to Humphreys, August 26, p. 529.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 192. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, August 15, 1864.*

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XVIII. Col. M. Lewis Clark, artillery, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to inspection duty in the Ordnance Department. He will report to and receive instructions from Col. J. Gorgas, chief of ordnance, C. S. Army.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

SAML. W. MELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 15, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Farm:

One of Dearing's scouts, said to be generally correct, reports Hancock's Second Corps went to City Point and came back again yesterday. Field's capture of prisoners from this corps yesterday seems to contradict this. Perhaps you have positive information. Dearing also reports enemy have withdrawn their pickets from Gary's Church. Hill reports enemy has strengthened his force in his front. At daylight about three brigades were seen moving to enemy's left. Hill's pickets report wagons or artillery moving from 11 until 3 o'clock last night to our left.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 15, 1864.

General R. E. LEE:

General Hampton telegraphs from Richmond his command is moving back and he awaits instructions there. Cars are at Dunlop's for two brigades. If not needed for this purpose, Colonel Otey would like to have them for supplies.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
Near Petersburg, Va., August 15, 1864.

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: Understanding that General Braxton Bragg has returned to Richmond, I have the honor to request as early an answer as practicable to my letter of the 25th ultimo.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

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* See Vol. XL, Part III, p. 801.

[First indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
August 17, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War, to whom the former letter of General Beauregard was referred, inclosed in B. 1523, some time since.

H. L. CLAY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

AUGUST 19, 1864.

Respectfully referred, at the request of General Beauregard, to General Bragg.

It is hoped the explanations of General Beauregard may be deemed satisfactory, as I apprehend a court of inquiry, under present circumstances, would be inconvenient and probably mischievous.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
August 22, 1864.

Respectfully returned to honorable Secretary of War.

The communication relating to the movement of Baker's regiment was one of many on the subject of delays attending the transfer of troops in different parts of the Confederacy last spring. I had been specially directed to inquire into these delays, and in making this report, after mentioning the case of Baker's regiment, I proceeded to call attention to the want of promptness generally in complying with orders for the movements of troops. The wording of this paragraph plainly shows its general application, but as it may, when isolated, be construed to reflect specially on General Beauregard, my senior in commission, with whom my relations, both personal and official, have ever been and I hope will continue of the kindest nature, I beg to withdraw the letter from the files of your office.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

[Fourth indorsement.]

AUGUST 22, 1864.

I am gratified to find that there need not be any further controversy on this point between two such influential leaders of the army, and allow, with pleasure, the withdrawal generously sought.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary.

RICHMOND, *August 15, 1864.*

Major-General FIELD,
Chaffin's Bluff:

What is the condition of affairs in your front this morning? Full information is necessary for intelligent co-operation.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 15, 1864—12.36 a. m.

Maj. Gen. C. W. FIELD,
Chaffin's Bluff:

Your telegram of 9 p. m. received. Two brigades of infantry and W. H. F. Lee's division of cavalry are on their way to you. The infantry left by rail at 7.30 and 9.30 p. m. The cavalry will move right on. Send an officer to meet it with instructions to General W. H. F. Lee where he is most required. Hampton is moving down from other side.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Keep Richmond advised of movements of enemy's cavalry.

W. H. T.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF, *August 16, 1864—10.35 a. m.*

President DAVIS:

General Field, on the Darbytown road, reports that General Lee's pickets at the swamp have been driven back, and that the enemy in heavy force are advancing up the Charles City road and are nearly at White's Tavern. Enemy is in rear of Field's force, and it will be thrown over on the left to attack enemy in flank. I recommend the works at Richmond to be manned. If Hampton's force is accessible, please order it at once down Charles City road.

R. E. LEE.

[Indorsement.]

General G. W. C. LEE:

To man the works as advised, have the local defense troops called out and notify General Pemberton so that he may give the needful orders in regard to the artillery of the Richmond defenses.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

RICHMOND, *August 16, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff:

Your dispatch of this day received. General G. W. C. Lee will put his brigade in the city defenses, and General Pemberton will make the needful disposition of the artillery along the same lines. General Hampton's division passed down the Charles City road this morning.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF, *August 16, 1864—4 p. m.*

SECRETARY OF WAR:

The enemy has made a determined attack on our line between the Darbytown and Charles City roads. At one time he broke through, but was repulsed, and we now occupy our original positions.

R. E. LEE.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF, *August 16, 1864—8.30 p. m.*

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

The enemy did not renew the attack after his repulse mentioned in my first dispatch. His force on the Charles City road, after advancing to within two miles of White's Tavern, was driven back across White Oak Swamp. Our loss was small.

R. E. LEE.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 193. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, August 16, 1864.*

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III. Capt. F. T. Forbes, assistant commissary of subsistence, will report without delay to Lieut. Gen. R. S. Ewell, commanding, &c., to relieve Maj. Charles Howard, commissary of subsistence, as chief commissary of the troops in the Department of Richmond. Captain Forbes will continue to superintend the subsistence of prisoners of war in this city.

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XXXIII. Brig. Gen. G. W. C. Lee, commanding forces for local defense, will immediately report with his command to Lieutenant-General Ewell, commanding, &c.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY DEFENSES,
August 16, 1864.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I inclose, for the consideration of the lieutenant-general commanding, a copy of a telegram dispatched to me on yesterday by Lieut. Col. J. M. Maury, at New Market Hill, informing me that the mortars and howitzers (if not already in possession of the enemy) placed by me at that point for the purpose of operating against the enemy's pontoon bridge at Deep Bottom, had been turned over by order of General Field to Colonel Carter. These guns were taken from the defenses of Richmond for the special service indicated, and Lieutenant-Colonel Maury had been placed in command of them by me. Besides these guns two light batteries and a section of a third, attached to the Richmond defenses, and temporarily sent by me to New Market, were by this order of General Field placed under the command of Colonel Carter. I visited New Market in person soon after the dispatch from Colonel Maury had been sent, and ascertained from Colonel Carter that the facts communicated to me by Colonel Maury were correct. I submit this to the consideration of the lieutenant-general commanding for the purpose of ascertaining to what extent it meets with his approbation.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. PEMBERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

NEW MARKET, *August 15, 1864.*
(Received 2 p. m.)

Colonel PEMBERTON:

All the artillery at this point, including that sent down by you, has been placed by General Field in command of Colonel Carter. I considered in this case that we had nothing more to do with the operation here, and ordered Major Taylor back to take charge at the bluff while I remained merely as a looker-on. I have no authority here to interfere with the artillery in any way. Colonel Carter permitted the mortar detachments to return to camp. He also sent the 20-pounder Parrotts back where they came from. It is useless for Major Taylor to return here, as he will not be allowed to exercise any command. The howitzers, I fear, are gone. It is thought that the enemy carried them off last night. The 10-pounder Parrotts are here and under command of Colonel Carter. As you seem to have sent the order for my return to the Bluff under a misapprehension I will wait for an answer to this before returning. I would like to remain a day or two to see the result of operations here.

J. M. MAURY,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *August 16, 1864—8 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff, North Side of James River:

All quiet yesterday and last night. Scouts report Second Corps marched with five days' rations; expedition must then be only a diversion to prevent Early being re-enforced.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., August 17, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 14th instant, and hear with regret of the increased tendency to desertion manifested by a portion of your army. I can well understand the discomfort and suffering which troops in this weather must suffer in the trenches, and I fear with you that the patriotism and self-denial of our soldiers may not always be proof against the temptations offered by the Washington authorities. I have received your recommendation of an order, which should operate *per contra*, as an inducement to the soldiers of the enemy to desert, and after conferring with the President and slightly modifying it, to conform to the suggestions made by him, I had directed it to be issued and sent to you. I hope it will operate advantageously to our cause. One of the particular causes mentioned by you as tending to promote desertion has, I am sure, no just foundation, unless misapprehension prevails among our troops.

Since receiving your remonstrance against the issue of authorities to raise new companies, and your exposition of the mischiefs resulting, finding your views confirmed by inquiries which I caused to be made in

our other armies, I promptly revoked the new outstanding permits, and from that time have steadily refused to grant any more, so that at this time there is no authority to recruit or form new organizations in Alabama or elsewhere issued from this Department. The attention of the Department has likewise been engaged in endeavoring to discover and return all deserters who have recruited in other companies to their proper commands. Inspections have been made in the armies of the South and West, and notice given that deserters should not be received, and that all heretofore enlisted should be returned to their proper commands. In regard to the dissatisfaction said to have resulted in the Ninth Alabama Regiment from the dismissal of a favorite officer I have no information; but I will cause inquiry to be made, and if any remedy can be found will endeavor to apply it.

I am glad to have your suggestions on these or any other matters relating to the organization and improvement of your army, and hope to profit by them.

Very truly, yours,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *August 17, 1864.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

Cannot General MacRae be assigned permanently to command Martin's brigade and General Conner (temporarily) Elliott's brigade? The services of these two officers are pressingly needed.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 17, 1864.

Colonel STEVENS,
Chief Engineer, Army of Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: General Alexander and myself to-day examined the lines about Chamberlayne's and in rear of the crater of the enemy's mine of the 30th ultimo, with view of best defense in event of another mine anywhere in that quarter. We concur in the following arrangement of guns as best, viz: At the pits preparing for three Blakely 32-pounders, to have one of those; immediately next it and on its left, one 8-inch howitzer, and next to it one 24-pounder howitzer. This, we think, combines best the coalition there. The other two 32-pounder Blakelys had best, we think, be put on the knob behind the Griffith house, and near them, on the same knob, two 24-pounder howitzers. The two 30-pounder Parrotts, now in position near the mouth of Ragland's lane, behind General Heth's headquarters, ought, we think, to be removed, as their ammunition is wholly unsafe to fire with over our lines; two 8 or 10 inch mortars had better be gotten, if possible, we consider, and placed there. Those 30-pounder Parrotts might be used with advantage on the north side of the Appomattox, and the 8-inch howitzer recently placed there might be usefully transferred to some point behind Chamberlayne's battery; suppose that just in front of where the

30-pounder Parrotts now are. Please confer with such superior officers as you find it proper to consult, and if your final judgment agrees with ours let these arrangements be made.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 17, 1864.

Colonel WALKER,
Comdg. Artillery, Third Corps, Army of Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: General Alexander and myself to-day examined the lines about Chamberlayne's battery. We should have been very glad to have had your counsel and would have asked you to join us, but I supposed your boils would not permit you to ride and walk so far. We concur, among other points, in the judgment that the three 24-pounder howitzers which you now have in position to use as mortars will be much more useful for the general line placed elsewhere, and that three Coehorn mortars in their stead will answer there better. It seems very probable that the enemy is moving in earnest toward Chamberlayne's battery, and it is of the first importance to prepare strong defense there. Toward this we think one of those 24-pounder howitzers had better be in one of the three pits in rear of Chamberlayne's prepared for 32-pounder Blakely, an 8-inch howitzer and one 32-pounder Blakely being also there. The other two howitzers (24-pounders) and the other two Blakelys may perhaps be best placed in the knob behind the Griffith house. The two 30-pounder Parrotts had best, we think, be removed to the north side of the Appomattox, their ammunition being so unsafe to fire with over our line, and in their stead two 8 or 10 inch mortars might be there used to advantage, and perhaps an 8-inch howitzer in front of them where Garden had two guns. I wish you to confer with General Alexander on these several points as soon as possible, and also with Colonel Stevens and General Hill, as it may be necessary to have their views in the case, and as far as can be done without contravening any important judgment, let the proposed arrangements be carried into effect with the least possible delay. The prospect of such operations by the enemy and these adjustments render it advisable for us to defer the exchange of certain battalions between General Alexander and yourself of which we had spoken.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *August 17, 1864—10 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff:

All quiet here yesterday and last night. No material change reported in enemy's movements or position. Thirty-six wagons and ten ambulances passed this morning on military road, rear [of] Battery 5, going in direction of City Point.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *August 17, 1864—5 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff, Va.:

Have ordered our batteries to open daily for thirty minutes, at 2 and 3 a. m., to prevent enemy's concentration of troops for an attack.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF, *August 18, 1864.*
(Received 11.15 p. m.)

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

This morning our skirmishers reoccupied the hill north of Dutch Gap, from which the enemy had been driven by our gun-boats. This afternoon the left of our line north of James River advanced against the enemy's right to discover his strength and position; drove in his skirmish line, and finding him strongly intrenched withdrew. About noon the enemy in front of Petersburg moved his Fifth Corps toward the Weldon railroad, when he was met by General Heth, who drove him a mile, capturing 150 prisoners.

R. E. LEE.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 195. ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, August 18, 1864.*

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XX. Capt. M. T. Davidson, Signal Corps, is assigned to duty with the division commanded by Maj. Gen. C. W. Field, and will report accordingly.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 196. HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *August 18, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. S. McGowan, having reported for duty, is assigned to the command of his brigade. General Conner is relieved from the command of McGowan's brigade, and will retain the command, for the present, of Lane's brigade and the detachments which were ordered to report to him.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *August 18, 1864.*

[Lieut. Col. W. T. POAGUE:]

COLONEL: Colonel Walker is much in need of men to work two heavy guns. Our artillery as well as infantry force here has quite as much as

it can do with ordinary armament, preparing breast-works, &c. I write, therefore, to get you to send down to Colonel Walker as soon as practicable such number of men as you can spare from Penick's battery, to work those two heavy guns. I suppose you can, with your other companies and a portion of Penick's men, temporarily man his battery and use it effectually, if need be, where now posted. If so, let Captain Penick come with about thirty men, including, say, two non-commissioned officers besides, if any can be spared. Of course this is not peremptorily addressed, because I do not know the particulars of your situation; you can exercise a judicious discretion in the case. But, if you can safely admit the arrangement, retain Penick's guns and horses for the present, use them as best you can, and send the captain and men asked for to Colonel Walker and as soon as practicable.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

AUGUST 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. C. M. WILCOX,
Dunlop's:

The camp of army headquarters is being moved to the north side of James River. Communications for the commanding general should be addressed to Chaffin's Bluff until otherwise directed.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Maj. Gen. G. E. Pickett.)

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *August 18, 1864—10.15 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff, Va.:

Following dispatch just received from General Dearing:

Enemy has driven in my pickets and reserve in front of Yellow House. I am just going up with another regiment. Colonel Taliaferro reports them in force with infantry and cavalry.

Can any cavalry re-enforcements be sent him? I have none here.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

NEAR PETERSBURG, *August 18, 1864—12 m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff:

Artillery firing of this morning has developed nothing. General Dearing reported just now, "Enemy is advancing in force both upon railroad and Vaughan road." I have ordered two brigades of infantry to support General Dearing. They must return to-night to their positions.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *August 18, 1864—3.40 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff:

General Hill reports that prisoners taken state that two divisions of Fifth Corps are on railroad. Has Fifth Corps left your front?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *August 18, 1864—7 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff:

General Dearing reports having checked enemy's advance at the Davis house, where they have formed strong line of battle in his front. He does not think, however, the force more than a few regiments of infantry and one or two of cavalry. I have sent some infantry to his assistance.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *August 18, 1864—7 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff, Va.:

General Heth reports having driven enemy about one mile below Davis' house. Over 150 prisoners taken, representing three divisions of Fifth Corps. Heth desires re-enforcements to complete his success. He has already all I can spare, three brigades infantry, which must return to vicinity of lines during night.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

DUNN'S HILL, *August 18, 1864—10.45 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Farm:

General Hoke reports that the railroad to City Point has been used a great deal to-day by the enemy, and that they are still doing so; also that bands have been heard in that direction indicating the movement of troops.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA.,
August 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,
Chief Engineer, Richmond, Va.:

General Lee, having moved his headquarters from here, it is probable Colonel Stevens will soon follow him; hence Colonel Harris, whose health, moreover, is not very good, cannot be spared for Mobile. Should General Lee not require Colonel Stevens he could be sent to that locality.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

PETERSBURG, *August 18, 1864.*

Colonel GARNETT,
Commanding Hicksford:

Enemy reported on railroad at Yellow House—both infantry and cavalry. Be on the alert.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Colonel Armistead, Weldon.)

GENERAL HOSPITAL, HOWARD'S GROVE,
Richmond, Va., August 18, 1864.

Hon. JAMES M. BAKER,
Hon. A. E. MAXWELL,
C. S. Senators from Florida:

GENTLEMEN: As an officer of the C. S. Army it is my duty to do all in my power to increase the strength and efficiency of our armies by the exercise of my profession or by my advice on subjects appertaining to the medical hygiene and regulation of the health of the soldiers under my care and others when necessary. I address this communication to you in order to call your attention to the condition of General Finegan's brigade from our State. This brigade is a very large one, and was highly efficient while in Florida, for the reason that the men were accustomed to the climate, which is highly favorable to soldiers who are acclimated. They enjoyed good health, and were capable of doing good service. Since the arrival of this brigade in Virginia, the latter part of May last, its strength has been reduced fully two-thirds by various causes, but principally from climatic influences. This being the hospital for the States of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, and Arkansas, I will give some facts which go to show that these Floridians suffer more from sickness here than either of the other States, because there are more new troops from Florida than from either of the other States. Texas and Arkansas have but few troops here, and they are all veterans. Mississippi and Alabama have many more than Florida, mostly veterans also. The numbers received into the hospital from each of those States are as follows: Alabama, 2,298; Mississippi, 925; Florida, 817; Texas, 295; Arkansas, 74. Alabama has about fifty regiments; Mississippi, about forty; Florida, six; Texas, three, and Arkansas, two, so that the proportion from Florida is far greater than from either of the other States, and the deaths are still greater in proportion to the admissions. The admissions are about one-quarter, while the deaths are one-third, showing that the Floridians die more rapidly than from these other States.

The composition of this brigade will also prove that it cannot be efficient in this climate under the fatigues which they are necessarily compelled to go through. First, it is composed of men over conscript age; second, men within conscript age who have been discharged from other commands in Virginia and Tennessee because they were unable to stand the hard service; third, boys under eighteen, a large number of whom have taken measles and will be unfit for service here for some months, and if they are furloughed they have to come back and go through the same acclimation as if they had never been here; all these facts go to prove that this brigade cannot do service in Virginia. It came here 2,500 rank and file, and now I am informed there are less

than 800 for duty. If they were sent back to Florida all these sick would soon recover and it would again be an efficient body of troops and would do good service there, while here many of them will die, and others will cumber the hospitals and be a trouble and expense to the Government. With these opinions, which I have no doubt will be fully corroborated by the officers of the brigade, I would earnestly request you to endeavor to get this brigade back to Florida, and by so doing you will benefit the cause far more than to let these men linger out a painful existence in a climate inimical to them. Our rulers are men of enlarged views and experience, and I have no doubt if you would represent the matter to them they would at once order them back.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. M. PALMER,
Surgeon in Charge.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 19, 1864.

Maj. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I desire to express the gratification I have derived from the conduct of the cavalry during its late operations north of James River. The success of General W. H. F. Lee's division, on the 15th instant; the more signal result that attended the combined attack of his and General Gary's forces on the following day, and the skillful execution of your orders on the 18th by General Butler with his division, reflect great credit upon the several commands engaged. Please express to the officers and men my thanks for their gallant and valuable services. The loss sustained by the cavalry in the fall of General Chambliss will be felt throughout the army, in which, by his courage, energy, and skill, he had won for himself an honorable name.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 196. ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., August 19, 1864.

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XXXVII. Paragraph XIV, Special Orders, No. 187,* current series, is hereby revoked, and Brig. Gen. J. J. Archer, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty with the Army of Northern Virginia, and will report to General R. E. Lee, commanding.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 197. HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 19, 1864.

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II. Brig. Gen. J. J. Archer is assigned to the command of Archer's and Walker's brigades (temporarily united), of Heth's division, Third Corps, and will report accordingly.

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* See Vol. XXXVIII, Part V, p. 953.

III. Brig. Gen. W. W. Kirkland will report to General G. T. Beauregard for assignment to the command of the brigade of Hoke's division heretofore commanded by Brigadier-General Martin.

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By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *August 19, 1864—8 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff:

Three divisions of enemy reported still in position fortifying where repulsed last evening near Davis' house, on Weldon railroad. I will endeavor to-day to dislodge him with four brigades of our infantry and the division of cavalry you have promised. Result would be more certain with a stronger force of infantry. Signal station reports just now one brigade of infantry, 100 wagons, and forty-nine ambulances passing toward our front on military road in rear of Battery 5.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *August 19, 1864—9.20 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff, Va.:

Captured Yankee captain. Says object of expedition was to break up Weldon railroad and so weaken our forces in front as to increase chances of breaking our lines, intimating use of another move. The fire of our batteries this morning must have disconcerted enemy's plans.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

PETERSBURG, *August 19, 1864—1.30 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff:

General Wilcox reports passing of wagons or artillery all night over pontoon bridge from north to south side of Appomattox.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

PETERSBURG, *August 19, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff:

Colonel Simmons, of Thomas' brigade, reports that a brigade of infantry passed pontoon bridge this a. m. about 7 o'clock, moving this way. Artillery or wagons were passing bridge all night.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *August 19, 1864—8 p. m.*

Capt. A. R. CHISOLM,
Aide-de-Camp, Spotswood House, Richmond, Va.:

Should you not be able to obtain an answer to my letter see Secretary of War on the subject and return as soon as practicable. We have just defeated the enemy on Weldon road near here. Captured large numbers of prisoners.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS BATTALION,
Friend's Farm, August 19, 1864.

General W. N. PENDLETON,
Chief of Artillery, Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: In compliance with your instructions received last night, Captain Penick is sent with thirty men to report to Colonel Walker. We will make out to man his guns in case they are needed. We are not altogether idle here; a moderate fire is kept up at night on the enemy at Dutch Gap, where it is pretty well ascertained they are cutting a channel. Two of my companies, Utterback's and Williams', were sent to Colonel Carter a few days since in obedience to order from General Lee.

I am, general, with high respect, your obedient servant,

W. T. POAGUE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

[AUGUST 20, 1864.—For Lee to Seddon and Beauregard to Seddon, reporting engagement on Weldon railroad, 19th, see Part I, pp. 851, 858.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 197. } *Richmond, August 20, 1864.*

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XXIV. Maj. J. R. Braithwaite, quartermaster, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty with Brig. Gen. J. A. Walker, commanding forces on line of Richmond and Danville Railroad, and will report accordingly.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *August 20, 1864—8.15 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff, Va.:

General Hill reports enemy still occupying part of railroad where he is fortifying. Am endeavoring to make necessary arrangements to dislodge him to-day, if practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *August 20, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE, *Chaffin's Bluff, Va.:*

Dispatches of 1 and 1.45 o'clock just received. Prisoners state that Second Corps has relieved Ninth Corps in the trenches. Signal station reporting movements of troops would seem to confirm this. Every available man who can be spared from trenches has been withdrawn. Shall try attack in the morning with all the force I can spare. I will call on Wilcox for a brigade as instructed.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *August 20, 1864—7 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE, *Chaffin's Bluff, Va.:*

Expect to attack early in the morning. Have already taken one brigade from Hoke and another from Johnson, extending their commands in the lines to utmost. No available force shall be left behind. Am happy to hear of Early's success.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[AUGUST 21, 1864.—For Lee to Seddon, reporting withdrawal of enemy from north side of James River, and engagement on Weldon railroad, see Part I, p. 851.]

RICHMOND, VA., *August 20, 1864.*

General T. H. HOLMES, *Raleigh, N. C.:*

The position of the enemy on Weldon railroad requires your forces to be in readiness for prompt movement. The force at Wilmington should be increased.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 21, 1864—10 a. m.

Mr. D. H. WOOD, *Richmond, Va.:*

Have cars at Rice's Turnout as soon as possible to bring two brigades, say 2,000 men, to Petersburg. The troops are now there, or nearly there.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 21, 1864—11 p. m.

CHARLES G. TALCOTT,
Danville Railroad, Richmond, Va.:

It is reported that enemy's cavalry crossed Weldon railroad at Reams' this evening and took direction of Dinwiddie Court-House. Raid on South Side and Danville road may be contemplated. Be on the lookout for them.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Colonel Sandford, superintendent South Side road, Petersburg, Va.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 21, 1864—10 a. m.

Maj. Gen. C. W. FIELD:

If all the enemy have left send as many of your brigades as you can spare. If Gregg has left request Hampton to report to me.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 21, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. C. W. FIELD, *Chaffin's Bluff:*

A brigade of cavalry and one of infantry, followed by wagon train, are reported crossing in front of our works around Petersburg to our right. Advise General Hampton. These troops are supposed to come from north of James River.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 21, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. C. W. FIELD:

Telegram received.* If enemy has reduced his force send two of your brigades to Petersburg. Telegraph Major Wood, Richmond, to have cars at Rice's Turnout.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 21, 1864.

General G. T. ANDERSON, *Commanding Brigade, Dunlop's:*

Camp your brigade for to-night at some convenient point near where you are landed from the cars. Notify army headquarters of your location. Extend same orders to dismounted cavalry.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PETERSBURG, VA., *August 21, 1864—4.45 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. WADE HAMPTON:

Your telegram received. If enemy's cavalry has left north side I desire you to move with Hampton's division to this point as soon as practicable.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 21, 1864—8 p. m.

Maj. Gen. WADE HAMPTON, *Near Chaffin's Bluff:*

Telegram received. Need not march all night. Select convenient camp for the night and move on early in the morning. Don't injure horses.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* Not found.

PETERSBURG, *August 21, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:

My telegram of the 17th sent asking for assignment of Generals MacRae and Conner is recalled.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
August 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHNSON HAGOOD:
(Through Major-General Hoke.)

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs that you will forward to-morrow morning as early as practicable a list of the casualties of your command sustained this day. He desires also a report of all the circumstances attending the recapture of a flag of your command.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 22, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond, Va.:

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the enemy's superiority of numbers has enabled him to effect a lodgment on the Weldon railroad. Two attacks were made upon him when he first approached the road, in both of which he was worsted, but the smallness of the attacking force prevented it from dislodging him. By the time re-enforcements could be brought from the north of the James River the enemy had so much strengthened his position that it was found impracticable to drive him away when the attack was renewed yesterday. When the army first assumed its present position I informed you that I doubted our ability to keep the road open, owing to the proximity of the enemy, and his superiority in numbers. If driven from the place he now occupies he could not be prevented from striking the road at some other point, as our forces are insufficient to guard its entire length. These considerations induced me to abandon the further prosecution of the effort to dislodge the enemy, as it could not be done without a greater sacrifice of life than we can afford to make, and the benefits secured would be only temporary. I think it evident that the enemy has abandoned the effort to drive us from our present position by force, and that his purpose now is to compel us to evacuate it by cutting off our supplies. I think his intention in the late demonstration north of the James River was not only to cause the removal of troops from Petersburg, but also to try to break through to Richmond. Being foiled in that effort, the forces engaged in it have been brought back to this side, except those at Dutch Gap.

Under these circumstances, we should use every effort to maintain ourselves by our remaining line of communications. The most intelligent and energetic officers should be charged with the duty of superintending the transportation of supplies over all the roads upon which the army depends, and be strictly enjoined to give their unremitting personal attention to the matter. All the transportation that can be

spared from roads not now so important to us should be accumulated on those upon which we depend for supplies, and the most judicious arrangements made to secure the greatest efficiency of the roads. I shall do all in my power to get supplies by the Weldon road, bringing them as far as Stony Creek by rail, and thence by wagons. One train has already been sent out for this purpose, and another is preparing to start. If we can get through the next month or six weeks the corn crop will begin to be available in Virginia, and afford us great relief. In the meantime no effort should be spared to work all the roads by which we are supplied to their utmost capacity. We should not only provide for our current wants, but try, if possible, to accumulate a reserve to provide against those occasional interruptions of our communications which the policy of the enemy justifies us in anticipating. Our supply of corn is exhausted to-day, and I am informed that the small reserve in Richmond is consumed. The failure to accumulate a large surplus was owing, as I am told, to the inadequacy of the supply brought from the south. If this was owing to bad management of the southern railroads the evil should be at once corrected. If the supply itself is short it would be well to have corn brought into Wilmington if practicable, until the new crop becomes available. The southern roads should be made to transport as much as the Danville road and its connection can bring to Richmond, besides the quantity that we will endeavor to haul from Stony Creek, and in this way a surplus can be accumulated. I am confident that by strenuous efforts and strict economy of all our means we will be able to thwart the plans of the enemy, and I trust you will give the matter that attention which its vital importance demands. The purchase and collection of all stores required by the army should be everywhere vigorously prosecuted. If we are unsuccessful in maintaining ourselves, I anticipate a good moral effect from the failure of this last effort of the enemy, when it shall become known that the only advantage secured by the sacrifice of time and men at Petersburg has not produced the results anticipated from it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
No. 199. } *August 22, 1864.*

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IX. Col. John Dunovant, having been appointed to the temporary rank of brigadier-general, will report to Maj. Gen. Wade Hampton, commander of cavalry, Army of Northern Virginia, for assignment to the command of Butler's brigade, Hampton's division.

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By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY, THIRD CORPS,
August 22, 1864.

General PENDLETON:

GENERAL: The enemy were attacked on railroad at 8 o'clock on yesterday. We failed to dislodge him from his position; our loss was

small. Our troops have been withdrawn from his front and placed within the trenches. We had to take guns from the line. Captain Wingfield, as you directed, was brought over to supply their places. General Hill thinks it will be necessary to keep them here in consequence of the greater extent of line necessary now to cover Petersburg.

Yours, respectfully,

R. L. WALKER,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS HAGOOD'S BRIGADE,
Petersburg, Va., August 22, 1864.

Colonel BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I am directed in a communication from department headquarters, just received, to forward a list of the casualties in my command sustained yesterday, and also to report all the circumstances attending the recapture of the flag of one of my regiments.*

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When the line had reached the enemy's works, some 200 men having got into a re-entering angle, where they were exposed to a severe cross-fire, became confused, and a mounted officer of the enemy galloping out of a sally-port seized the colors of the Twenty-seventh [South Carolina] Regiment and called upon them to surrender. Several officers and men began to surrender, but had not been carried in. Observing this I made my way to them from the part of the line upon which I was, calling to the men to shoot him. They either did not hear me or were bewildered by the surrender of part of their number and failed to do so. When I got up to him I demanded the colors from him, and that he should go back into his works, telling him that he was free to do so. He commenced arguing with me upon our desperate position, and I cut him short, demanding a categorical reply. He said "No," and I shot him from his horse. Giving the colors to my orderly and mounting his horse I succeeded in withdrawing the men with as little loss as could have been expected from the terrible fire to which we were exposed in retiring. Probably half the men unhurt were brought off from this point. I beg leave specially to mention the good conduct of my orderly, Private J. D. Stoney, of the Twenty-seventh [South Carolina] Regiment, in this matter. He has always displayed gallantry, and would do credit to a commission.

Very respectfully,

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

[First indorsement.]

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *August 23, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded, through General R. E. Lee, to His Excellency President Jefferson Davis, for his information.

Such an act of gallantry as herein described and of devotion to one's flag reflects the highest credit on the officer who performed it, and should be held up to the army as worthy of imitation under similar circumstances. Brigadier-General Hagood is a brave and meritorious officer, who has distinguished himself already at Battery Wagner and Drewry's Bluff,

* For portion of report, here omitted, relating to casualties sustained, see Part I, p. 936.

and participated actively in the battles of Ware Bottom Church, Cold Harbor, and Petersburg on 16th and 17th of June last. I respectfully recommend him for promotion at the earliest opportunity. Attention is respectfully called, also, to General Hagood's recommendation of his orderly, Private J. D. Stoney, for a commission. I feel assured he is well deserving of it.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 24, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Third indorsement.]

BUREAU ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL,
APPOINTMENT OFFICE,
September 1, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War.
By order:

ED. A. PALFREY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fourth indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 21, 1864.

Respectfully submitted, as requested, to the notice of the President.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

[Fifth indorsement.]

NOVEMBER 7, 1864.

There are two modes of recognizing distinguished service: one by promotion, the other by announcement in orders. See recommendation for the private and note for the brigadier, who I regard as worthy of promotion when it can be consistently made.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

[Sixth indorsement.]

OVEMBER 9, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Note the President's indorsement, and if opportunity of promotion occurs submit.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

RICHMOND, VA., *August 23, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, &c., Petersburg, Va.:

GENERAL: Yours of yesterday received. I have inquired of the Quartermaster-General in relation to the question of forage, the supply

of which you are aware was mainly drawn from Southwestern Georgia, communication with which was interrupted by the enemy's recent raid on the Central Railroad. That road is again at work, and the Quartermaster-General expects the first lot of corn from Macon since the road was broken will arrive in four or five days, and if there be no further interruption there will be a steady succession in the arrival from that quarter, and that the amount will be adequate for the supply of your army. He is quite confident that the Danville and Piedmont Railroad can transport all which can be brought to their terminus. One of the difficulties of which he complains is that of getting the corn from the plantations to the depots, and this, he says, is mainly due to the withdrawal of the detailed men, overseers, and farmers from their homes for temporary military service. I have had serious apprehension that the source of supply might be exhausted by the retreat of the Army of Tennessee and the consequent exposure of the Atlanta and Montgomery Railroad, the possession of which by the enemy would compel the army to draw its supplies from the same quarter which is relied on to furnish corn for the Army of Virginia. West of the Alabama River there is an abundant supply of corn, large quantities of which are stored along the railroads and navigable rivers. The reported amount now at Montgomery is 300,000 bushels, and the receipts are said to be equal to the amount sent forward from there daily. The 600 wagons were put on the break on the West Point railroad, and another train of wagons is running from Montgomery to the railroad at Union Springs. If General Hood is successful against Sherman, and we suffer no serious disaster, so as to deprive us of the supplies in Middle Alabama and East Mississippi, I think we shall be better able to sustain an army here than we were the first year of the war. I directed inquiry to be made for oats in Virginia and North Carolina, but have been disappointed by learning that but a small amount can be obtained. It would seem, therefore, that for the supply of forage we must mainly rely upon the railroad connection with the south by way of Danville and Greensborough. I trust the enemy will not be able to reach that road. I cannot say I was surprised that the enemy have been able to break through the Weldon railroad, though I regret they should have had time to fortify themselves as a consequence of feeble attacks made upon them at the time of their first occupation of it, which, as I understand, was during the absence of the force he had detached to the northern side of the James River. Interposed, as he now is, between your army and Weldon, I have felt increased apprehension lest an attack should be made upon Wilmington. The Northern papers clearly indicate the change of plan on the part of General Grant which you think suggested by his operations, and they seem to render it quite certain that his movement to the north side of James River was not intended as a feint, but adopted as an easy line under existing circumstances to approach Richmond. I will do whatever is in my power, and in the manner you request, to aid you in defeating the new plan, and I hope you will be as successful as you have heretofore been against this and other generals of the enemy who have been sent to reduce the capital of the Confederacy and to humble the pride of Virginia.

Very respectfully and truly, yours,

JEFF'N DAVIS.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., August 23, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of yesterday, and hear, with regret, that the enemy have effected a permanent lodgment on the Weldon railroad. I appreciate the consequences likely to follow in diminishing the conduits of supply and increasing the facilities of attack on our only remaining southern line, the Danville railroad. Every effort must be made to defend and maintain that road, and the Department will enjoin enhanced vigilance on the officers charged with that duty. We may be subjected to serious embarrassments in procuring supplies, but I entertain sanguine confidence that we shall not be compelled to evacuate your positions for want of subsistence for men or animals. There have been of late, as you are aware, interruptions from raids of the enemy on the southern roads, and, in consequence of this, and of the fact that the support of both armies, yours and that of General Hood, has been thrown on the same district of country, there has been greatly diminished supplies coming forward. The breaks have all been repaired, or nearly so, and, as I am pleased to learn, there is no real deficiency of supplies existing in the south, there should be soon a decided increase in the quantity forwarded. Since the breaks occurred some of the most efficient officers in the employment of the Department have been sent south, and especially assigned to the duty of collecting and forwarding these supplies. There shall be no want of aid to the Danville railroad to transport all that can be brought to its terminus. At the same time all the efforts which my earnest injunctions can induce shall be made by the officers of the quartermaster's and subsistence bureaus to obtain supplies of wheat and oats in this State. Of corn, I regret to say, there is literally none until the new crop comes in, and the scarcity of it, with the prospects of a bad crop, diminishes largely the quantity of wheat which can be spared from the wants of the people. The late reduction, too, in the schedule of prices, notwithstanding the outcry which was raised against the previous extravagant rates is, I fear, operating very seriously to prevent deliveries. I do not disguise from you or myself that there may be very serious strain within the next two months in providing adequate supplies. Still, I believe it can and will be done, and certainly no exertion shall be spared on my part to accomplish it.

Very respectfully, yours,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 23, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond:

SIR: The subject of recruiting the ranks of our army is growing in importance and has occupied much of my attention. Unless some measures can be devised to replace our losses, the consequences may be disastrous. I think that there must be more men in the country liable to military duty than the small number of recruits received would seem to indicate. It has been several months since the passage of the last conscript law, and a large number of able-bodied men and officers are engaged in enforcing it. They should by this time, if they have not

been remiss, have brought out most of the men liable to conscription, and should have no duty to perform, except to send to the army those who arrive at the legal age of service. I recommend that the facts of the case be investigated, and that if the officers and men engaged in enrolling have finished their work, with the exception indicated, they be returned to the army, where their presence is much needed. It is evidently inexpedient to keep a larger number out of service in order to get a smaller. I would also respectfully recommend that the list of detailed men be revised, and that all details of arms-bearing men be revoked, except in cases of absolute necessity. I have myself seen numbers of men claiming to be detailed in different parts of the country who it seemed to me might well be in service. The crops are generally secured, or beyond the necessity of further labor, and I hope some of the agricultural details may be revoked. Our numbers are daily decreasing, and the time has arrived in my opinion when no man should be excused from service, except for the purpose of doing work absolutely necessary for the support of the army. If we had here a few thousand men more to hold the stronger parts of our lines where an attack is least likely to be made, it would enable us to employ with good effect our veteran troops. Without some increase of strength, I cannot see how we are to escape the natural military consequences of the enemy's numerical superiority.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 23, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.:

SIR: I have received reports which have led me to believe that the General Order, No. 65, issued recently from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office,* is beginning to have some effect in encouraging desertions from the enemy. I hope steps have been taken to carry into immediate execution its provisions with regard to persons claiming its protection and benefits. It is important that these persons should get home in order to communicate with their friends in the Federal Army. I think the order should be translated into German, and a considerable number of copies sent to all our armies for distribution.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 199. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, August 23, 1864.

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XXII. Capt. J. A. Fuqua, of the Invalid Corps, is assigned to duty with Maj. Gen. W. H. C. Whiting, Provisional Army, C. S., and will report accordingly.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See p. 529.

PETERSBURG, *August 24, 1864—7 a. m.*

Maj. Gen. C. W. FIELD:

Have one of your brigades prepared and ready to move here on a moment's notice if required and called for.

R. E. LEE,
General.

PETERSBURG, *August 24, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. C. W. FIELD,
Chaffin's Bluff:

When you arrive at Dunlop's, put your troops in motion for Campbell's Bridge, and ride or send an officer here for further instructions.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
August 24, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the indorsement of General Bragg, stating that in his communication relating to the movement of Colonel Baker, his remarks had no special application to myself, but were designed to have a general application to delays in the transfer of troops; and that as the wording of his remarks might be construed to have an application to myself, with whom his relations both personal and official had ever been, and as he hoped would continue, of the kindest character, and asked to withdraw his letter from the files of the War Office. To this application the honorable Secretary of War replied that he is gratified that there need be no further controversy on the point in issue between General Bragg and myself, and with pleasure has allowed the withdrawal of the letter generously sought by General Bragg. This prompt disclaimer of General Bragg of any imputation of official delinquency on my part has fully justified my expectations and has given me the highest satisfaction. Concurring as I do in the sentiment expressed by the honorable Secretary of War, that there need not be any further controversy, I beg leave to recall my application for a court of inquiry.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

[Indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
August 27, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War.

H. L. CLAY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
August 24, 1864—2.45 p. m.

General HAMPTON:

GENERAL: Your note of 2.30 is received. General Heth's division will also move down the railroad, and General Hill will go in command. I wish you to report to him, and do all in your power to punish the enemy. You ought to have out your scouts to ascertain their position and the best point to attack them.

Very respectfully,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. E. PICKETT,
Hancock's House:

Your telegram of 24th received. If you can make any demonstration on any part of your line it may be advantageous.

R. E. LEE.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
August 25, 1864.

General PICKETT:

Hoke's mine failed to explode from some nameless cause in the gallery. It will be tried again soon. Have your re-enforcements arrived?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHESTERFIELD, *August 25, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

So much the better. Only one division has yet arrived from Richmond.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General.

PETERSBURG, VA., *August 25, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. G. E. PICKETT,
Hancock's House:

You will please send at once the following dispatch by signal via Dunn's house to General Beauregard:

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

Have felt enemy in my front and discovered force. Am prepared on my line.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General.

An answer will be sent you by signals which will be unintelligible to you.* Take no notice of it.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See intercepted dispatch Beauregard to Pickett, 2.30 p. m., p. 468.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DISTRICT,
DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VIRGINIA,
Goldsborough, August 25, 1864.

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE,
Governor of North Carolina:

GOVERNOR: I deem it my duty, as commander of this military district, to apprise you of the fact that in all probability combinations are being made by the enemy which will call for the earnest effort of all men in the state to avoid catastrophe. I have information from Plymouth that one iron-clad gun-boat has already passed the bar and that another is being lightened over, and that re-enforcements of infantry are expected for the purpose of recovering possession of Eastern North Carolina. You are aware that the enemy holds the Petersburg road, and I have reason to believe that Weldon will be seriously threatened soon. As soon as he is sufficiently fortified in the front of his present position he will be able to detach a large force against Weldon. I think he is already moving in that direction. In addition to this, General Whiting is in expectation of an early movement upon Wilmington, in which case I am expected to render him all the assistance in my power. Heretofore I have been able to rely on General Beauregard for assistance from Petersburg, but this is now taken away by the occupation of the Petersburg road. If these movements are made simultaneously the State will be in danger, and in case of either one of them being made it will require the service of the arms-bearing portion of the population to enable us to drive them off. In view of the apparent necessity and the danger which may threaten us at any moment I must earnestly and respectfully urge upon Your Excellency to call out the whole force of the State and send them to me at this place, where they can be made available in any direction. Even if the present signs fail the moral effect upon the enemy of the knowledge that you are able to throw a large force into the field for the defense of the State will be very great and may deter this very movement.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, Your Excellency's obedient servant,

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

[AUGUST 26, 1864.—For Lee to Seddon, reporting battle at Reams' Station, see Part I, p. 851.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., August 26, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge your letter in regard to recruiting for the army.* I share your solicitude respecting the decreasing number of our forces, and have been endeavoring, by all the means in my power, to give activity to the conscript service. The suggestions made by you shall receive earnest attention, and it is hoped may contribute to the recruitment so essential to the success of our cause. I hear from various sources that there are still many active men in the

* See August 23, p. 1199.

country, of military age, who should be embraced by the conscription. I cannot help thinking there must be considerable exaggeration, except in so far as the law has sanctioned agricultural or professional exemption. Certainly there have been earnest and reiterated efforts to induce activity on the part of the enrolling officers, and it would seem many very strong motives would induce not only their activity, but report to them of all such as are evading service. Those who have not to go would naturally wish to send forward defenders, and those who have would certainly wish to carry forward all others who are liable with them. There should be, therefore, little opportunity for evasion or concealment, and the officers of the Conscript Bureau report that such is really the case. Still, renewed efforts will be made to impress them with the necessity for greater effort than ever. The class of detailed agriculturists will in a short time be a source from which some may be drawn. You will perceive, however, that I am endeavoring, through the commander of the reserve forces, to have organized, as thoroughly as possible, in every portion of the State, all men capable of bearing arms for some kind of service. In the last necessity these may be called forth and made available for more general defense. At least, the strictly local organizations may give larger scope for movement and usefulness to the reserves proper.

Very respectfully, yours,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 202. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, August 26, 1864.*

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IX. The captain of Company C, Twelfth Georgia Battalion, will proceed with his company without delay to headquarters Army of Northern Virginia and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c., for assignment to duty with said battalion.

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XXXIX. Maj. I. H. Carrington, provost-marshal of this city, is charged with executing the order for receiving and sending off deserters who may come in under the invitation of the War Department, as published in General Orders, No. 65, current series. In sending off such deserters by the line of the Potomac River the agency of the Signal Corps may be used, and the commanding officer of that corps is hereby instructed to furnish an officer, commissioned or non-commissioned, to accompany and direct them, and to render any other facilities in his power.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 26, 1864.

Maj. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your note has been received. I am very much gratified with the success of yesterday's operations. The conduct of the cavalry

is worthy of all praise. I wished you to be near them, because I feared that, as Gregg was so much in the background in yesterday's operations he might be preparing for a raid on the Danville and South Side railroads. I wish you now to rest the two divisions as much as practicable, and to take such position as would enable you most speedily to intercept and punish any party which they might send out against our communication. It would be well to let Dearing's brigade do all the picketing if practicable, so as to give the rest of the cavalry a good period of repose for refreshing their horses.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 203. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, August 27, 1864.*

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XXXII. Lieut. Col. Archer Anderson, assistant adjutant-general, is relieved from present duty, and will proceed to make a thorough and detailed inspection of the different departments of the conscript service in the State of Virginia outside of the city of Richmond. He will receive special instructions from and report to General B. Bragg.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY DIVISION, THIRD CORPS,
August 27, 1864.

Col. R. L. WALKER,
Chief of Artillery, Third Corps:

COLONEL: Out of the nine guns captured from the enemy on 25th instant Colonel Pegram desires to have one Napoleon; Colonel McIntosh wants two 3-inch rifles, and General Hampton one 3-inch rifle, leaving four Napoleons and one 3-inch rifle to be disposed of. These five guns are greatly needed by my old battalion, from the fact that we have five Richmond-made 10-pounder Parrotts that are not serviceable, and also that this battalion is short two guns in its complement to complete its batteries. Should those guns be given me I shall have three Richmond-made 10-pounder Parrotts turned in and their places supplied by the captured guns. You are aware that Captain Ross' battery of this battalion participated in their capture and needs a portion of the guns.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. CUTTS,
Colonel, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY, THIRD CORPS,
August 27, 1864.

COLONEL: This disposition described by Colonel Cutts within, meets my approval as I hope it will yours. Please let me know by courier what shall be done.

Yours, &c.,

R. L. WALKER,
Colonel, &c.

[Second indorsement.]

ORDNANCE OFFICE, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 29, 1864.

Respectfully referred to commanding general to know whether he has any special instructions to give in regard to these guns.

BRISCOE G. BALDWIN,
Lieut. Col., Chief of Ordnance, Army of Northern Virginia.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 30, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Brigadier-General Pendleton for his recommendations.

By order of General Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS,
August 31, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

I approve of the distribution described by Colonel Cutts and sanctioned by Colonel Walker. It seems scarcely worth while to extend the distribution beyond the Third Corps, and this arrangement will render the artillery of that corps efficient.

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

PETERSBURG, *August 28, 1864.*

Governor WILLIAM SMITH, *Richmond:*

My telegram of the 26th, asking that the militia on duty in Petersburg may be continued thirty days, is unanswered. Their services are necessary. Please answer.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

PETERSBURG, *August 28, 1864.*

General M. W. GARY, *Chaffin's Bluff:*

Send scouts to ascertain if bridges are being built en route to Southall's Ferry, and watch movements of enemy and ascertain his object.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 29, 1864.

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE,
Governor of North Carolina, Raleigh:

GOVERNOR: The recent success of the enemy at Mobile may induce him to attack Wilmington, and the importance of that is such that every effort should be made to defend it, as you are aware the strength of the enemy's armies in Virginia and Georgia will prevent the detachment of any part of our forces opposed to them, and our chief reliance for the protection of Wilmington must be placed upon the reserves and

local troops of the State. I think, if an attack should be made, the enemy will be obliged to employ raw troops to a great extent, and I believe the local and reserve forces, with the present garrison, sufficient to hold the place, if they will come forward freely. I respectfully ask the co-operation of Your Excellency to induce them to do so, and the aid of influence and authority to provide means for the most obstinate defense. I have frequently been called upon to mention the services of North Carolina soldiers in this army, but their gallantry and conduct were never more deserving of admiration than in the engagement at Reams' Station, on the 25th instant. The brigades of Generals Cooke, MacRae, and Lane, the last under the command of General Conner, advanced through a thick abatis of felled trees, under a heavy fire of musketry and artillery, and carried the enemy's works with a steady courage that elicited the warm commendation of their corps and division commanders and the admiration of the army.

On the same occasion the brigade of General Barringer bore a conspicuous part in the operations of the cavalry which were not less distinguished for boldness and efficiency than those of the infantry. If men who remain in North Carolina share the spirit of those they have sent to the field, as I doubt not they do, her defense may be securely intrusted to their hands.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
No. 205. } *August 29, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

VI. Brig. Gen. James H. Lane will resume command of Lane's brigade, of Wilcox's division, Third Corps, relieving Brig. Gen. James Conner, temporarily in command.

VII. Brig. Gen. James Conner is assigned to the command of Kershaw's old brigade, of Kershaw's division, First Corps, and will report accordingly.

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By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Organization of the artillery in the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, August 29, 1864, Col. Hilary P. Jones, C. S. Artillery, commanding.

Read's Battalion.

Maj. JOHN P. W. READ.

Blount's (Virginia) battery.
Macon's (Virginia) battery.
Marshall's (Virginia) battery.
Sullivan's (Virginia) battery.

Coit's Battalion.

Maj. JAMES C. COIT.

Bradford's (Mississippi) battery.
Pegram's (Virginia) battery.
Wright's (Virginia) battery.

Moseley's Battalion.

Lieut. Col. EDGAR F. MOSELEY.

Cumming's (North Carolina) battery.
Miller's (North Carolina) battery.
Slaten's (Georgia) battery.
Young's (Virginia) battery.

Boggs' Battalion.

Maj. FRANCIS J. BOGGS.

Martin's (Virginia) battery.
Sturdivant's (Virginia) battery.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS,
August 30, 1864.

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: Having to-day re-examined our lines between the former explosion and the crossing of the plank road beyond Rives' salient, I desire respectfully to suggest to the commanding general the importance of having constructed, as soon as practicable, a covered way along the rear line of works and guns. Should the enemy spring several mines at different points of the line simultaneously, such rear covered way would be of utmost value in concentrating troops quickly at the critical points. Without it, exposed as is that plain to a severe fire, a considerable detour, involving loss of time and energy, would be necessary in transferring troops from one side to the other. In case of need, too, such channel and embankment might serve well for a second line of defense. General Alexander fully concurs with me in this view, and I have on former occasions understood Colonel Stevens to express like convictions. The troops in position seem to have as much work to do on the front line as they can well accomplish. Might it not be well for some reserve brigade to effect this within the next night or two under direction of the engineers?

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 30, 1864.

Col. R. L. WALKER,
Chief of Artillery, Third Corps, Army of Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: Having observed things to-day on the left of your line needing prompt action I communicate them that you may have the requisite steps taken:

First. The 8-inch columbiad is not sufficiently fixed for service; you had better have it pressed on to completion, as there is no saying when it may be needed.

Second. The two 8-inch howitzers are nearly useless where they now are; it is essential that they be otherwise located. One where the Blakelys were prepared for; one where the two 8-inch columbiads were prepared for. These changes ought to be made immediately. One of your 24-pounder howitzers ought to be also where the 8-inch columbiads were prepared for, in case of a blow-up and assault at Rives' salient. Another of your 24-pounder howitzers ought to be with the other 8-inch howitzer, where the Blakelys were provided for. These preparations on the rear line ought to be accomplished at once, as there is no saying when the enemy will spring the mines he is constructing. Please have these matters attended to immediately.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 30, 1864.

Col. H. P. JONES,
Chief of Artillery, Dept. of N. C. and South. Va.:

COLONEL: Under General Orders, No. 52, of yesterday, I call your attention to the firing of the guns under Captain Cumming, opposite Battery No. 1 and at the Archer house. They were nearly out of ammunition yesterday when I visited them. The rounds on hand in the train I last night directed to be issued; there will still be but short allowance until more arrives; the firing must, therefore, be very deliberate. As the enemy only keeps a thin force on one line, and has protected himself against our enfilade, it is desirable occasionally to vary slightly our line of fire, so as the more probably to strike his troops. The Whitworth had perhaps best fire upon wagon trains, &c., when they appear. Please give the requisite directions.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

P. S.—If there are any guns on other portions of your line likely to give the enemy special annoyance, let such also open at the signal according to the order above mentioned.

W. N. P.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND SOUTH. VA.,
No. 80. } *August 30, 1864.*

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II. Col. H. P. Jones, chief of artillery, will proceed without delay to Wilmington to inspect and organize the batteries of field artillery of the Third Military District into battalions on the same basis as they are organized in this army. On reaching Wilmington he will exhibit his orders to Major-General Whiting and confer with him on the subject.

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By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SIGNAL CAMP, KING GEORGE COUNTY,
August 31, 1864.

Capt. W. N. BARKER,
In Charge of Signal Office, Richmond, Va.:

CAPTAIN: Mail duly sent on this morning. We are again blessed with two light boats, with two launches attached to each, and mounted with one brass piece on forward deck. They are stationed, one at Upper Cedar Point, one at Lower Cedar Point. No doubt the launches are intended for patrol purposes. Troops have been passing up on steamers Sunday, Monday, and also two regular war vessels Monday evening. Will write next mail more fully in regard to those light boats, and other news of any importance.

Yours, truly,

J. HENRY THOMAS.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 206. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, August 31, 1864.*

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XXXVII. I. H. Carrington, provost-marshal of Richmond, Va., will take charge of all deserters from the enemy under General Orders, No. 65, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, and will forward them without delay to Abingdon, Va., thence to be sent to Kentucky and Ohio.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 31, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. S. EWELL,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: General Lee directs me to inclose the enemy's signal alphabet,* as deciphered by some of our signal men here. We read their messages with facility, and the general desires you to communicate the alphabet to all signal men operating north of James River, enjoining them to keep the fact of our knowledge of the alphabet secret. The enemy read our dispatches also, and you will please put your signal officers on their guard.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES MARSHALL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 207. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *August 31, 1864.*

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VI. Lieutenant Chisolm, aide-de-camp of General Beauregard, will proceed to Richmond, Va., and deliver to the honorable Secretary of War nineteen of the enemy's colors captured in the recent engagements on the line of the Weldon railroad. He will return upon the completion of this duty.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, August 31, 1864.

General COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:

GENERAL: I shall be very much obliged if you can give orders to have me speedily supplied or facilitated rather in procuring the galvanic

* Not found.

torpedoes for the defense of the entrances here. I made many efforts for this means of defense some time ago, at least eighteen months, but unsuccessfully for want of material. The difficulties presented by the quicksands and force of the sea, and tides on inlets from the ocean, were found to be very great, and at Charleston, as I am informed, the galvanic apparatus and torpedoes proved failures. I have, however, had an interview with Captain Davidson, of the Navy, who has had charge of this means of defense on the James River, an accomplished and successful officer, and am assured that the arrangement of this means is perfectly practicable. It will be a very great addition to my power of defense, especially since the destruction of one iron-clad of our navy here, and the almost entire uselessness of the other, owing to the worms eating out her bottom, if I could put down some galvanic torpedoes as soon as possible. You are aware of my condition here; on that subject I can say no more to the Department, if, indeed, I have not already said too much. I propose that the services of Mr. R. Croley, electrician on the James, be spared to me for a time, that the Tredegar or other convenient works provide me as soon as possible with the powder tanks, and that I be authorized to procure from abroad or elsewhere as soon as possible the requisite material in the way of insulated wire, apparatus, &c., and that the Ordnance Department be directed to use every effort to aid in this. The results on the James River will justify this action, I think. If I can be aided, the question of time will be the main point, for since by the loss of the harbor of Mobile and partial occupation of that of Charleston this port is our last one. There can be little doubt that the enemy will attempt to close it, especially since we have begun to attack their commerce from this place. I hope you will not object because I so often call attention to the need of this place, but the magnitude of the interests involved compel me to use all efforts to save it that are in my power.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
September 14, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to Secretary of War.

JOHN W. RIELY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

ENGINEER BUREAU,
September 19, 1864.

Respectfully returned to the Adjutant and Inspector General.

Application has been made through the honorable Secretary of War to the Secretary of the Navy for the services of Mr. Croley, and General Whiting has been called on for a list of the articles required to be imported for the preparation of galvanic torpedoes in his department.

J. F. GILMER,
Major-General and Chief Engineer Bureau.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, August 31, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD,
Comdg. Dept. of N. Carolina and Southern Va., Petersburg:

GENERAL: I am compelled once more to call attention to the state of this place. We are running very dangerous risks. I do not know that the enemy contemplate taking present advantage; but they are fools if they don't, and if they do I assure you that this our last hold on the water will not be able to make the resistance it should do. The garrison of the forts is much too small—smaller than it was two years ago with a double development now. The extra demands upon it, due to blockade-running, quarantine, and the entire absence of any infantry support, are such that it must and does rapidly deteriorate. The long line of shore pickets, absolutely necessary to the security of the position and for succor to blockade-runners, has to be kept up by diminished garrisons of heavy artillery, who ought to be at their guns and keeping them in proper order and efficiency. With men doing double duty, and on guard every other night, I cannot hope to have efficient artillerists, and my last inspection shows the truth of this. Not more than 600 men guard the coast from the South Carolina line to the western bar, and in this are included the important forts Campbell and Caswell, each of which should never have less than 800 men apiece exclusive of its infantry support. The coast from New River to New Inlet, including the Virginia Creek lines and the long lines of batteries called Fort Fisher, is defended by less than 1,200 men. Fort Fisher alone ought never to be without a garrison of 2,200. Smith's Island, the key of the harbor, with a coast line of ten miles, requiring an equal force, has but 600. It must be recollected that island was never ordered to be defended previous to my command, and while the works are increased nearly double on this account the garrison is now less.

Referring to my frequent correspondence on this subject, beginning in December, 1862, I have always shown that for effective defense, in addition to the garrison, not less than five brigades would be required with their field artillery. Their positions have been pointed out, the lines and mode of enemy's attack most probably indicated. I dislike to have to write of these things, especially since receiving General Lee's reply of the 6th ultimo. He deprecates even my calling the attention of the Department to the matter, and while I acquiesce in his views and decisions, yet with the warning of Mobile before us I feel compelled to state the case. It must be noted that a very material change has taken place as to the immunity of this port from attack. Since the fitting out of the Tallahassee and her expedition, extensive destruction of the enemy's commerce, and return to this port, their fleet has been much increased and many earnest appeals are made by the Northern press to shut up this port. If we continue to send out privateers certainly the only port of refuge for them now in the world ought to be made secure beyond peradventure. I wish you would examine for yourself the military condition of this command, as to its lines of attack and means of defense, and satisfy yourself, as I am sure you will do, that in my repeated warnings I have in no way exaggerated the difficulties of the position or been unduly apprehensive for its security, considering the means at hand. A strong supporting force should always be maintained (now more than ever) at the head of the sounds, to protect Fort Fisher and the narrow peninsula between Masonborough and the river from being cut off; another at Smithville, for the relief of the

defenses of the western bar and to provide against attack in the rear, while the main body should be posted in the immediate vicinity of the city, or, better still, at or near Masonborough on the coast.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

Abstract from tri-monthly return of the Department of Richmond, Lieut. Gen. Richard S. Ewell commanding, August 31, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.	Prisoners.	
	Officers.	Men.					Officers.	Men.
General staff	12	.....	.....	12	12	.....	.....	.....
Johnson's brigade	54	435	395	737	1,772	.....	49	461
*25th Virginia Battalion	18	238	238	558	828	.....	1	14
1st Regiment Reserves	19	287	318	360	788	.....	.....	.....
Total	91	960	951	1,655	3,388	.....	50	475
Gary's cavalry brigade	50	896	889	1,457	2,655	.....	8	180
Artillery defenses	115	2,360	2,552	2,884	3,396	22	2	1
Grand total	268	4,216	4,392	6,008	9,451	22	60	656

Organization of troops same as June 20, 1864, except that Johnson's brigade, Col. John M. Hughs commanding, composed of Seventeenth and Twenty-third Tennessee Regiments (consolidated), Forty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Tennessee Regiments (consolidated), and Sixty-third Tennessee Regiment have been added, and Local Defense Troops, Sixtieth Alabama Regiment and First Battalion Cavalry, are omitted.*

Abstract from monthly return of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee, commanding, August 31, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.			
General staff	12	.....	.....	12	.....
First Army Corps (Anderson):					
Staff	17	.....	.....	17	.....
Pickett's division	385	4,544	4,544	6,006	11,378
Field's division	432	3,944	3,944	5,512	12,475
Kershaw's division	377	3,445	3,445	4,769	11,390
Total	1,223	11,933	11,933	16,316	35,243
Second Army Corps (Early):					
Staff	17	.....	.....	17	19
Breckinridge's division	243	2,104	2,104	2,832	6,860
Rodes' division	323	3,013	3,013	4,165	16,109
Gordon's division	300	2,544	2,544	3,339	14,208
Ramseur's division	210	1,909	1,909	2,571	7,363
Total	1,093	9,570	9,570	12,924	44,559

* For roster of June 20, 1864, see Vol. XL, Part II, p. 671.

Abstract from monthly return of the Army of Northern Virginia, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.			
Third Army Corps (Hill):					
Staff	15	.....	.....	15	17
Mahone's division	329	4,094	4,094	5,875	13,560
Heth's division	346	4,075	4,075	5,155	13,206
Wilcox's division	367	4,054	4,054	5,281	11,984
Fifth Alabama Battalion	14	151	151	178	247
Total	1,071	12,374	12,374	16,504	43,572
Cavalry Corps (Hampton):					
Staff	12	.....	.....	12	16
Hampton's division	204	2,769	2,769	3,734	8,327
Fitz. Lee's division *a*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
W. H. F. Lee's division	140	2,575	2,575	3,276	5,656
Dearing's brigade	88	1,395	1,395	1,779	1,779
Horse Artillery *b*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	444	6,739	6,739	8,801	15,778
Artillery Reserve (Pendleton):					
First Corps artillery	73	1,456	1,456	1,730	2,407
Colonel Carter's artillery	13	285	285	366	511
Third Corps artillery	101	1,890	1,890	2,347	3,408
Total	187	3,631	3,631	4,443	6,326
Grand total	4,018	44,247	44,247	58,988	145,478

a Detached. *b* No report.

Two hundred and ninety officers and 4,268 enlisted men in hands of enemy are not added in the present and absent of the several divisions, but are added in total present and absent of Third Army Corps.

*Organization of the Army of Northern Virginia August 31, 1864.**

FIRST ARMY CORPS.

Lieut. Gen. RICHARD H. ANDERSON

PICKETT'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE E. PICKETT.

Barton's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. SETH M. BARTON.†

9th Virginia, Col. James J. Phillips.
14th Virginia, Col. William White.
38th Virginia, Col. George K. Griggs.
53d Virginia, Col. William R. Aylett.
57th Virginia, Col. Clement R. Fontaine.

Corse's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. MONTGOMERY D. CORSE.

15th Virginia, Col. Thomas P. August.
17th Virginia, Col. Arthur Herbert.
29th Virginia, Col. James Giles.
30th Virginia, Col. Archibald T. Harrison.
32d Virginia, Col. Edgar B. Montague.

Hunton's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. EPPA HUNTON.

8th Virginia, Col. Norborne Berkeley.
18th Virginia, Col. Henry A. Carrington.
19th Virginia, Col. Henry Gantt.
28th Virginia, Col. William Watts.
56th Virginia, Col. Philips P. Slaughter.

Terry's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM R. TERRY.

1st Virginia, Col. Frederick G. Skinner.
3d Virginia, Col. Joseph Mayo, jr.
7th Virginia, Col. Charles C. Flowerree.
11th Virginia, Col. Maurice S. Langhorne.
24th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Richard L. Maury.

* From monthly return when not otherwise indicated. The original return does not indicate actual commanders.

† Col. W. R. Aylett was in command August 29, and probably at above date

FIELD'S DIVISION.*

Maj. Gen. CHARLES W. FIELD.

Anderson's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE T. ANDERSON.

7th Georgia, Col. George H. Carmical.
8th Georgia, Col. John R. Towers.
9th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Edward F. Hoge.
11th Georgia, Col. Francis H. Little.
59th Georgia, Col. Jack Brown.

Law's Brigade.

Col. PINCKNEY D. BOWLES.

4th Alabama, Col. Pinckney D. Bowles.
15th Alabama, Col. Alexander A. Lowther.
44th Alabama, Col. William F. Perry.
47th Alabama, Col. Michael J. Bulger.
48th Alabama, Lieut. Col. William M. Hardwick.

Bratton's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN BRATTON.

1st South Carolina, Col. James R. Hagood.
2d South Carolina Rifles, Col. Robert E. Bowen.
5th South Carolina, Col. A. Coward.
6th South Carolina, Col. John M. Steedman.
Palmetto Sharpshooters, Col. Joseph Walker.

KERSHAW'S DIVISION.†

Maj. Gen. JOSEPH B. KERSHAW.

Wofford's Brigade.

16th Georgia, Maj. James S. Gholston.
18th Georgia, Col. Joseph Armstrong.
24th Georgia, Col. C. C. Sanders.
3d Georgia Battalion Sharpshooters, Lieut. Col. Nathan L. Hutchins, jr.
Phillips Legion, Lieut. Col. Joseph Hamilton.
Cobb's Legion, Lieut. Col. Luther J. Glenn.

Bryan's Brigade.

10th Georgia, Col. Willis C. Holt.
50th Georgia, Col. Peter McGlashan.
51st Georgia, Col. Edward Ball.
53d Georgia, Col. James P. Simms.

Humphreys' Brigade.

13th Mississippi, Lieut. Col. Alfred G. O'Brien.
17th Mississippi, Capt. Jesse C. Cochran.
18th Mississippi, Col. Thomas M. Griffin.
21st Mississippi, Col. Daniel N. Moody.

Kershaw's [old] Brigade.

2d South Carolina, Col. John D. Kennedy.
3d South Carolina, Col. William D. Rutherford.
7th South Carolina, Capt. Elijah J. Goggans.
8th South Carolina, Col. John W. Henagan.
15th South Carolina, Col. John B. Davis.
20th South Carolina, Col. Stephen M. Boykin.
3d South Carolina Battalion, Lieut. Col. William G. Rice.

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* Inspection report of this division for August 30, 1864, shows that it also contained Benning's and Gregg's brigades. The return shows but two brigadier-generals present for duty; names not indicated. Inspection report for August 30 shows Generals Field, Anderson, Bratton, and Gregg present for duty, and Col. D. M. DuBose as commanding Benning's brigade.

† Only two brigadier-generals reported present for duty; names not indicated.

SECOND ARMY CORPS.*

Lieut. Gen. JUBAL A. EARLY.

GORDON'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. JOHN B. GORDON.

Hays' Brigade. a

5th Louisiana, Col. Henry Forno.
6th Louisiana, Col. William Monaghan.
7th Louisiana, Col. Davidson B. Penn.
8th Louisiana, Col. Alcibiades DeBlanc.
9th Louisiana, Col. William R. Peck.

Gordon's Brigade. b

13th Georgia, Lieut. Col. John H. Baker.
26th Georgia, Col. Edmund N. Atkinson.
31st Georgia, Col. Clement A. Evans.
38th Georgia, Col. James D. Mathews.
60th Georgia, Col. William H. Stiles, sr.
61st Georgia, Col. John H. Lamar.

Pegram's Brigade. c

Brig. Gen. JOHN PEGRAM.

13th Virginia, Col. James B. Terrill.
31st Virginia, Col. John S. Hoffman.
49th Virginia, Col. John C. Gibson.
52d Virginia, Col. James H. Skinner.
58th Virginia, Col. Francis H. Board.

Hoke's Brigade. d

6th North Carolina, Col. Robert F. Webb.
21st North Carolina, Lieut. Col. William S. Rankin.
54th North Carolina, Col. Kenneth M. Murchison.
57th North Carolina, Col. Archibald C. Godwin.
1st North Carolina Battalion Sharpshooters, Maj. Rufus W. Wharton.

JOHNSON'S DIVISION.

Stonewall Brigade. e

2d Virginia, Col. John Q. A. Nadenbousch.
4th Virginia, Col. William Terry.
5th Virginia, Col. John H. S. Funk.
27th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Charles L. Haynes.
33d Virginia, Col. Frederick W. M. Holliday.

Steuart's Brigade. e

10th Virginia, Col. Edward T. H. Warren.
23d Virginia, Col. Alexander G. Taliaferro.
37th Virginia, Col. Titus V. Williams.
1st North Carolina, Col. Hamilton A. Brown.
3d North Carolina, Col. Stephen D. Thruston.

Jones' Brigade. e

21st Virginia, Col. William A. Witcher.
25th Virginia, Col. John C. Higginbotham.
42d Virginia, Col. Robert W. Withers.
44th Virginia, Col. Norvell Cobb.
48th Virginia, Col. Robert H. Dungan.
50th Virginia, Col. Alexander S. Vandeventer.

Stafford's Brigade. a

1st Louisiana, Col. William R. Shivers.
2d Louisiana, Col. Jesse M. Williams.
10th Louisiana, Col. Eugene Waggaman.
14th Louisiana, Col. Zebulon York.
15th Louisiana, Col. Edmund Pendleton.

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* See organization of the Army of the Valley District, August 20 and 31, as shown by inspection reports, and published in Vol. XLIII, Part I. Notes *a* to *e* refer to that organization.

a Constituting York's brigade.

b Evans' brigade, Col. E. N. Atkinson commanding, and containing Twelfth Georgia Battalion.

c In Ramseur's division.

d Godwin's brigade, Ramseur's division.

e The Virginia regiments constituted Terry's brigade, Gordon's division.

SECOND ARMY CORPS—Continued.*

RODES' DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. ROBERT E. RODES.

Daniel's Brigade. *a*

32d North Carolina, Col. Edmund C. Brabble.
43d North Carolina, Col. Thomas S. Kenan.
45th North Carolina, Col. Samuel H. Boyd.
53d North Carolina, Col. William A. Owens.
2d North Carolina Battalion, Maj. John M. Hancock.

Ramseur's Brigade. *b*

2d North Carolina, Col. William R. Cox.
4th North Carolina, Col. Bryan Grimes.
14th North Carolina, Col. R. Tyler Bennett.
30th North Carolina, Col. Francis M. Parker.

Doles' Brigade. *c*

4th Georgia, Col. Philip Cook.
12th Georgia, Col. Edward Willis.
21st Georgia, Col. John T. Mercer.
44th Georgia, Col. William H. Peebles.

Battle's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. CULLEN A. BATTLE.

3d Alabama, Col. Charles Forsyth.
5th Alabama, Col. Josephus M. Hall.
6th Alabama, Col. James N. Lightfoot.
12th Alabama, Col. Samuel B. Pickens.
61st Alabama, Lieut. Col. Lewis H. Hill.

Johnston's Brigade. *d*

5th North Carolina, Col. Thomas M. Garrett.
12th North Carolina, Col. Henry E. Coleman.
20th North Carolina, Col. Thomas F. Toon.
23d North Carolina, Maj. Charles C. Blacknall.

THIRD ARMY CORPS.

Lieut. Gen. AMBROSE P. HILL.

MAHONE'S DIVISION.†

Sanders' Brigade.

8th Alabama, Col. Young L. Royston.
9th Alabama, Col. J. Horace King.
10th Alabama, Col. William H. Forney.
11th Alabama, Lieut. Col. George E. Tayloe.
14th Alabama, Col. Lucius Pinckard.

Harris' Brigade.‡

Col. JOSEPH M. JAYNE.

12th Mississippi, Capt. Sampson Bolter.
16th Mississippi, Capt. John S. Lewis.
19th Mississippi, Col. Richard W. Phipps.
48th Mississippi, Lieut. Col. Thomas B. Manlove.

Mahone's Brigade.§

6th Virginia, Col. George T. Rogers.
12th Virginia, Col. David A. Weisiger.
16th Virginia, Col. Joseph H. Ham.
41st Virginia, Col. William A. Parham.
61st Virginia, Col. Virginius D. Groner.

Wright's Brigade.‖

2d Georgia Battalion, Maj. Charles J. Moffett.
10th Georgia Battalion, Capt. James D. Frederick.
3d Georgia, Col. Edward J. Walker.
22d Georgia, Col. George H. Jones.
48th Georgia, Col. William Gibson.
64th Georgia, Maj. Walter H. Weems.

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* See organization of the Army of the Valley District, August 20 and 31, as shown by inspection reports, and published in Vol. XLIII, Part I. Notes *a* to *d* refer to that organization.

a Grimes' brigade.

b With North Carolina regiments from Steuart's brigade was Cox's brigade.

c Cook's brigade.

d In Ramseur's division.

† Return reports but one general officer present for duty; name not indicated.

‡ Actual commanders given as shown by inspection reports.

§ Colonel Weisiger commanding brigade August 15, according to inspection report.

‖ Brigadier-General Girardey killed at Deep Bottom.

*Finegan's Brigade.**

2d Florida, Maj. Walter R. Moore.
5th Florida, Col. Thomas B. Lamar.
8th Florida, Col. David Lang.
9th Florida, Col. John M. Martin.
10th Florida, Col. Charles F. Hopkins.
11th Florida,† Col. Theodore W. Brevard.

WILCOX'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. CADMUS M. WILCOX.

Thomas' Brigade.‡

Col. THOMAS J. SIMMONS.

14th Georgia, Maj. Washington L. Goldsmith.
35th Georgia, Lieut. Col. William H. McCullohs.
45th Georgia, Capt. Aurelius W. Gibson.
49th Georgia, Col. John T. Jordan.

McGowan's Brigade.‡

Brig. Gen. SAMUEL MCGOWAN.

1st South Carolina, Lieut. Col. Andrew P. Butler.
12th South Carolina, Capt. Robert M. Kerr.
13th South Carolina, Capt. David R. Duncan.
14th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. Edward Croft.
Orr's Rifles, Maj. James T. Robertson.

Lane's Brigade.‡

Brig. Gen. JAMES H. LANE.

7th North Carolina, Capt. James G. Harris.
18th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. John W. McGill.
28th North Carolina, Maj. Samuel N. Stowe.
33d North Carolina, Capt. W. J. Callais.
37th North Carolina, Col. William M. Barbour.

Scales' Brigade.‡

Brig. Gen. ALFRED M. SCALES.

13th North Carolina, Col. Joseph H. Hyman.
16th North Carolina, Col. William A. Stowe.
22d North Carolina, Col. Thomas S. Gallaway, jr.
34th North Carolina, Col. William L. J. Lowrance.
38th North Carolina, Col. John Ashford.

HETH'S DIVISION.§

Maj. Gen. HENRY HETH.

Davis' Brigade.‖

2d Mississippi, Col. John M. Stone.
11th Mississippi, Lieut. Col. William B. Lowry.
26th Mississippi, Col. Arthur E. Reynolds.
42d Mississippi, Lieut. Col. Andrew M. Nelson.
1st Confederate Battalion, Capt. J. M. Johnson.

MacRae's Brigade.

11th North Carolina, Col. William J. Martin.
26th North Carolina, Col. John R. Lane.
44th North Carolina, Col. Thomas C. Singeltary.
47th North Carolina, Col. George H. Faribault.
52d North Carolina, Col. Marcus A. Parks.

Cooke's Brigade.

15th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. William H. Yarborough.
27th North Carolina, Col. John A. Gilmer, jr.
46th North Carolina, Col. William L. Saunders.
48th North Carolina, Col. Samuel H. Walkup.

Archer's Brigade.

1st Tennessee, Lieut. Col. Newton J. George.
7th Tennessee, Col. John A. Fite.
14th Tennessee, Col. William McComb.
13th Alabama, Lieut. Col. James Aiken.

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* Finegan's and Perry's brigades consolidated; General Finegan commanding August 16.

† Two companies Bonaud's battalion attached.

‡ Actual commanders given as shown by inspection reports.

§ Four brigadier-generals reported present for duty; names not indicated.

‖ Inspection report for August 16 puts the 55th North Carolina, Capt. R. W. Thomas, in this brigade.

*Walker's Brigade.**

22d Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Edward P. Tayloe.
40th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Arthur S. Cunningham.
47th Virginia, Col. Robert M. Mayo.
55th Virginia, Col. William S. Christian.
2d Maryland Battalion, Lieut. Col. James R. Herbert.

Unattached.

5th Alabama Battalion.

CAVALRY CORPS.†

Maj. Gen. WADE HAMPTON.

LEE'S DIVISION.‡

Maj. Gen. FITZHUGH LEE.

Wickham's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAMS C. WICKHAM.

1st Virginia, Col. R. Welby Carter.
2d Virginia, Col. Thomas T. Munford.
3d Virginia, Col. Thomas H. Owen.
4th Virginia, Col. William H. Payne.

Lomax's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. LUNSFORD L. LOMAX.

5th Virginia, Col. Reuben B. Boston.
6th Virginia, Col. Julian Harrison.
15th Virginia, Col. Charles R. Collins.

BUTLER'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. M. C. BUTLER.

Dunovant's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN DUNOVANT.

3d South Carolina, Col. Charles J. Colcock.
4th South Carolina, Col. B. Huger Rutledge.
5th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. Robert J. Jeffords.
6th South Carolina, Col. Hugh K. Aiken.

Young's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. PIERCE M. B. YOUNG.

Cobb's Georgia Legion, Col. Gilbert J. Wright.
Phillips Legion, Lieut. Col. William W. Rich.
Jeff. Davis Legion, Lieut. Col. J. Fred. Waring.
Millen's Georgia Battalion.
Love's Alabama Battalion.
7th Georgia, Maj. Edward C. Anderson, jr.

Rosser's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS L. ROSSER.

7th Virginia, Col. Richard H. Dulany.
11th Virginia, Col. Oliver R. Funsten.
12th Virginia, Col. Asher W. Harman.
35th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Elijah V. White.

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* On inspection report for August 15 consolidated as Fry's brigade, Colonel Mayo, commanding.

† On face of return appears to have consisted of Hampton's, Fitzhugh Lee's, and W. H. F. Lee's divisions and Dearing's brigade.

‡ Reported as detached.

LEE'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM H. F. LEE.

Barringer's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. RUFUS BARRINGER.

1st North Carolina, Col. William H. Cheek.
2d North Carolina, Col. William P. Roberts.
4th North Carolina, Col. Dennis D. Ferebee.
5th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Stephen B. Evans.

Chambliss' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN R. CHAMBLISS, Jr.

9th Virginia, Col. Richard L. T. Beale.
10th Virginia, Col. J. Lucius Davis.
13th Virginia, Col. Jefferson C. Phillips.

ARTILLERY.*

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM N. PENDLETON.

FIRST CORPS ARTILLERY.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD P. ALEXANDER.*

Cabell's Battalion.

Col. HENRY C. CABELL.

Manly's battery, Capt. Basil C. Manly.
1st Company Richmond Howitzers, Capt. Robert M. Anderson.
Carlton's battery, Capt. Henry H. Carlton.
Callaway's battery, Lieut. M. Callaway.

Haskell's Battalion.

Maj. JOHN C. HASKELL.

Branch's battery, Capt. Henry G. Flanner.
Nelson's battery, Lieut. William B. Stanfield.
Garden's battery, Capt. Hugh R. Garden.
Rowan Battery, Lieut. Ezekiel Myers.

Huger's Battalion.

Maj. FRANK HUGER.

Smith's battery, Capt. John D. Smith.
Moody's battery, Lieut. George Poindexter.
Woolfolk's battery, Lieut. James Woolfolk.
Parker's battery, Capt. William W. Parker.
Taylor's battery, Capt. Osmond B. Taylor.
Fickling's battery, Capt. William W. Fickling.
Martin's battery, Capt. S. Taylor Martin.

Gibbes' Battalion.

Maj. WADE H. GIBBES.

Davidson's battery, Lieut. John H. Chamberlayne.
Dickenson's battery, Capt. Crispin Dickenson.
Otey's battery, Capt. David N. Walker.

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* But one general officer reported present for duty in the artillery, and Alexander's name not on original.

SECOND CORPS ARTILLERY.

Brig. Gen. ARMISTEAD L. LONG.

Braxton's Battalion.

Maj. CARTER M. BRAXTON.

Lee Battery, Lieut. William W. Hardwicke.
1st Maryland Artillery, Capt. William F. Dement.
Stafford Artillery, Capt. Raleigh L. Cooper.
Alleghany Artillery, Capt. John C. Carpenter.

Carter's Battalion.

Lieut. Col. THOMAS H. CARTER.

Morris Artillery, Capt. Samuel H. Pendleton.
Orange Artillery, Capt. C. W. Fry.
King William Artillery, Capt. William P. Carter.
Jeff. Davis Artillery, Capt. William J. Reese.

Cutshaw's Battalion.

Maj. WILFRED E. CUTSHAW.

Charlottesville Artillery, Capt. James McD. Carrington.
Staunton Artillery, Capt. Asher W. Garber.
Courtney Artillery, Capt. William A. Tanner.

Nelson's Battalion.

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM NELSON.

Amherst Artillery, Capt. Thomas J. Kirkpatrick.
Milledge Artillery, Capt. John Milledge, jr.
Fluvanna Artillery, Capt. John L. Massie.

Brown's Battalion.

Lieut. Col. ROBERT A. HARDAWAY.

Powhatan Artillery, Capt. Willis J. Dance.
2d Company Richmond Howitzers, Capt. Lorraine F. Jones.
3d Company Richmond Howitzers, Capt. Benjamin H. Smith, jr.
Rockbridge Artillery, Capt. Archibald Graham.
Salem Flying Artillery, Capt. Charles B. Griffin.

THIRD CORPS ARTILLERY.*

Col. R. LINDSAY WALKER.

Cutts' Battalion.†

Lieut. Col. ALLEN S. CUTTS.

Ross' battery, Capt. Hugh M. Ross.
Patterson's battery, Capt. George M. Patterson.
Irwin Artillery, Capt. John T. Wingfield.

Richardson's Battalion.†

Lieut. Col. CHARLES RICHARDSON.

Lewis Artillery, Capt. Nathan Penick.
Donaldsonville Artillery, Capt. Victor Maurin.
Norfolk Light Artillery, Capt. Charles R. Grandy.
Huger Artillery, Capt. Joseph D. Moore.

McIntosh's Battalion.

Lieut. Col. DAVID G. MCINTOSH.

Johnson's battery, Capt. Valentine J. Clutter.
Hardaway Artillery, Capt. William B. Hurt.
Danville Artillery, Capt. R. Sydney Rice.
2d Rockbridge Artillery, Capt. William K. Donald.

Pegram's Battalion.

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM J. PEGRAM.

Pee Dee Artillery, Capt. Ervin B. Brunson.
Fredericksburg Artillery, Capt. Edward A. Marye.
Letcher Artillery, Capt. Thomas A. Brander.
Purcell Battery, Capt. George M. Cayce.
Crenshaw's Battery, Capt. Thomas Ellett.

* The Washington (Louisiana) Artillery, Lieutenant-Colonel Eshleman commanding (four batteries), not accounted for in returns, but reported present in inspection report for September 1, 1864; that report also reports six batteries (not specified) in McIntosh's battalion.

† According to inspection report, September 1 to 30, Cutts' battalion, under Major Lane, and Richardson's battalion were combined under command of Colonel Cutts.

Poague's Battalion.

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM T. POAGUE.

Madison Artillery, Capt. Thomas J. Richards.
Albemarle Artillery, Capt. James W. Wyatt.
Brooke Artillery, Capt. Addison W. Utterback.
Charlotte Artillery, Capt. Arthur B. Williams.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS,
September 1, 1864.

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: In consequence of a statement made to me on the 30th ultimo, by Colonel Baldwin, that the companies working the heavy guns at the battery near Howlett's house on James River were reduced by sickness much below an efficient condition, I yesterday visited that battery in my ride on the lines. There are only four men present for duty in one company and thirty-six in the other, or forty altogether, out of an aggregate of 252. The largest gun requires properly to work it at least twenty men, the six others eight or ten a piece. If the commanding general deems it important to keep those guns served, one if not both of the other companies of Major Smith's battalion now at Drewry's Bluff, might be ordered to Howlett's, though I do not recommend it, because at present I do not perceive the need of using all these heavy guns. The surgeon in charge told me he thought he could very much control the disease of chills, &c., if he could obtain a sufficiency of quinine. I would respectfully suggest that the chief surgeon of the army be instructed to have special examination made on that front as to what can be done. I found other artillery commands also suffering seriously.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 1, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Surgeon Guild.
Cannot quinine be issued to the surgeon at Battery Dantzler?
By order of General Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE,
September 2, 1864.

Respectfully returned.
Attention invited to medical inspector's report, herewith inclosed.* Please return the report.

L. GUILD,
Medical Director, Army of Northern Virginia.

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*Not found.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 3, 1864.

Respectfully returned to General Pendleton.

An additional detachment [from] Drewry's Bluff has been sent to Battery Dantzler.

By order of General Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 207. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, September 1, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XX. Capt. A. W. Lawrence, of Confederate States ordnance, is assigned to duty with the reserves of North Carolina, and will report to Lieut. Gen. T. H. Holmes, commanding, &c., Raleigh, N. C.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION,
Petersburg, Va., September 1, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. S. EWELL:

DEAR SIR: I would respectfully urge upon you the importance of placing an efficient officer in command of my old brigade of Tennessee troops. I understand that its discipline is seriously declining for want of a good commander; that there is but little system in its present management, and that the ordinary daily duties are not attended to, or performed in a careless and unmilitary style. There is not more reliable fighting material in the army than in that brigade, and if it can ever return to Tennessee its strength will no doubt be increased by between 2,000 and 3,000. I feel great interest in the brigade, and desire to see some one in command of it who entertains a like interest, and has the ability and will to maintain its discipline and high character. Lieut. Col. R. B. Snowden, of the Forty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Consolidated Tennessee Regiments, is, in my opinion, an officer who will fill all of these requirements. He received a military education, and before the present war always manifested a spirited interest in military affairs. He entered the First Regiment Tennessee Volunteers (Colonel Maney's) at the commencement of the war, and served one year as adjutant; then served with me through the campaign in Kentucky as assistant adjutant-general, and was with me in the battles of Perryville and Murfreesborough. He commanded the Twenty-fifth Tennessee Regiment at the battle of Chickamauga with marked ability. On every field he has displayed distinguished gallantry. His name will be found on the roll of honor, placed there for distinguished valor on the field. He is a gentleman of good habits and good morals, and is undoubtedly the most able officer now serving with that brigade. I therefore recommend that he receive the temporary rank of brigadier-general and be

assigned to the command of Johnson's brigade of Tennessee troops. I will add that I believe this appointment will meet a hearty response in the confidence of the troops, and that it will insure for it a highly improved military condition.

Very truly, your friend and obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General, Provisional Army, C. S.

Abstract from return of the troops in the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, General G. T. Beauregard, commanding, for September 1, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.
	Officers.	Men.				
General staff	15	.....	.....	15	16	.....
First Military District:						
Staff	4	10	10	14	15	.....
Division	176	2,593	2,815	3,217	5,058	5
Total	180	2,603	2,825	3,231	5,073	5
Second Military District:						
Staff	7	3	3	10	10	.....
Division	210	3,706	3,771	4,776	7,237	27
Total	217	3,709	3,774	4,786	7,247	27
Third Military District:						
Staff	11	1	1	12	14	.....
Division	136	2,789	3,455	4,023	5,189	.....
Total	147	2,790	3,456	4,035	5,203	.....
Hoke's division:						
Staff	7	.....	.....	9	9	.....
Division	321	3,222	4,045	5,048	12,289	.....
Total	328	3,222	4,045	5,057	12,298	.....
Johnson's division:						
Staff	9	6	6	16	17	.....
Division	367	3,953	5,100	6,353	12,624	.....
Total	376	3,959	5,106	6,369	12,641	.....
Artillery (Colonel Jones)	52	899	1,009	1,119	1,641	49
Drewry's Bluff	16	154	188	239	257	14
Cavalry brigade (General Dearing)	84	1,407	1,601	1,807	.....	.....
Grand total	1,415	18,743	22,004	26,658	44,376	95

Organization of troops in the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, commanded by General G. T. Beauregard, September 1, 1864.

FIRST MILITARY DISTRICT.

Brig. Gen. HENRY A. WISE.

Holcombe Legion.

Capt. A. B. WOODRUFF.

Stony Creek (four companies).
Nottoway Bridge (four companies).
Rowanty Bridge (two companies).

Fort Clifton.

Lieut. Col. HENRY T. GUION.

34th Virginia (detachment).
10th North Carolina Artillery (detachment).

Hicksford.

Col. JOHN J. GARNETT.

C. S. Zouaves.
Virginia Reserves.
62d Georgia Cavalry, Company H.
Bradford's section artillery.

High Bridge (South Side Railroad).

Virginia Reserves.

Mattoax Bridge.

Maj. WILLIAM S. BASINGER.

18th Georgia Battalion.
Virginia Reserves.

Staunton River Bridge.

Lieut. Col. BENJAMIN L. FARINHOLT.

Virginia Reserves.

Danville, Va.

Col. ROBERT E. WITHERS.

Virginia Reserves.

Petersburg, Va.

44th Virginia Battalion, Capt. Thomas W. Branch.
Virginia Reserves, Lieut. Col. Fletcher H. Archer.
Independent Signal Corps, Maj. James F. Milligan.
Operatives, Maj. William H. Hood.

SECOND MILITARY DISTRICT.

Brig. Gen. LAWRENCE S. BAKER.

Goldsborough, N. C.

Col. STEPHEN D. POOL.

Battalion Senior Reserves, Maj. Boaz F. Hooks.
Company Provost Guard, Capt. John B. Griswold.

Kinston, N. C.

Col. JOHN N. WHITFORD.

67th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Rufus W. Wharton.
1st Battalion North Carolina Sharpshooters, Capt. R. E. Wilson.
3d North Carolina Cavalry (detachment, dismounted).
6th North Carolina Cavalry, Lieut. Col. Alfred H. Baird.
10th North Carolina Artillery, Company B (detachment), Lieutenant Whitehead.
13th North Carolina Battalion Artillery, Lieut. Col. Joseph B. Starr.

Wilmington, N. C.

Lieut. Col. JOHN C. VAN HOOK.

62d Georgia Cavalry, Company G, Capt. Patrick Gray.
50th North Carolina (four companies), Lieut. Col. John C. Van Hook.
10th North Carolina Artillery, B and G (detachments), } Maj. Thomas Sparrow.
13th North Carolina Battalion Artillery, Company B, }

Plymouth, N. C.

Col. GEORGE WORTHAM.

50th North Carolina (six companies), Col. George Wortham.
Spencer's and Pitt's Companies Independent Cavalry.
10th North Carolina Artillery Companies G and H (detachments), Capt. Benjamin T. Miller.
Lee's light battery, Capt. Edgar J. Lee.

Weldon, N. C.

Col. FRANK S. ARMISTEAD.

1st North Carolina Reserves, Lieut. Col. Charles W. Broadfoot.
One Battalion North Carolina Reserves, } Lieut. Col. John H. Anderson.
Provost Guard, }
15th Battalion North Carolina Cavalry, Lieut. Col. James M. Wynn.
10th North Carolina Artillery (detachment), Lieut. John M. Blount.
Webb's battery, Capt. Lewis H. Webb.
Local Defense Company, Capt. James W. Strange.

THIRD MILITARY DISTRICT.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM H. C. WHITING.

Fort Fisher.

Col. WILLIAM LAMB.

36th North Carolina (nine companies), Col. William Lamb.
13th Battalion Light Artillery, Company D, Capt. Zachariah T. Adams.

Fort Caswell.

Col. T. M. JONES.

1st Battalion North Carolina (three companies).
3d Battalion Heavy Artillery, Company C.
Sampson Artillery.

Fort Campbell.

Col. JOHN D. TAYLOR.

1st Battalion North Carolina (one company).
36th North Carolina (one company).
40th North Carolina (one company).
Coast Guards (one company).

Fort Holmes and Fort Pender.

Col. JOHN J. HEDRICK.

3d North Carolina Battalion, Company B, } Col. John J. Hedrick.
40th North Carolina (eight companies), }
10th North Carolina (detachment), Capt. Edward D. Walsh.

Fort Anderson.

1st Battalion, and 40th Regiment North Carolina (detachment), Capt. James L. McCormic.

Battery Lamb.

1st Battalion and 40th Regiment North Carolina (detachment), Lieut. John J. Bright.

Masonborough Sound.

Col. GEORGE JACKSON.

4th and 8th Battalions Junior Reserves, Maj. John M. Reece.
7th C. S. Cavalry, companies D and E, Capt. P. A. S. Morris.
Paris' battery, Capt. Andrew B. Paris.
Southerland's battery, Capt. Thomas J. Southerland.

Kenansville, N. C.

3d North Carolina Battalion, Company A, Capt. Andrew J. Ellis.
10th North Carolina Battalion (two companies), Maj. Wilton L. Young.

City of Wilmington and River Defenses.

Col. GEORGE A. CUNNINGHAM.

2d North Carolina Battalion, Company B.
10th North Carolina Battalion (two companies).
10th North Carolina (two companies).
40th North Carolina, Company A.
Buie's and Bass' companies (unattached).

HOKE'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. ROBERT F. HOKE.

Martin's Brigade.

17th North Carolina.
42d North Carolina.
50th North Carolina.
60th North Carolina.

Clingman's Brigade.

8th North Carolina.
31st North Carolina.
51st North Carolina.
61st North Carolina.

Colquitt's Brigade.

6th Georgia.
19th Georgia.
23d Georgia.
27th Georgia.
28th Georgia.

Hagood's Brigade.

7th South Carolina Battalion.
11th South Carolina.
21st South Carolina.
25th South Carolina.
27th South Carolina.

JOHNSON'S DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ARCHIBALD GRACIE, Jr.

Ransom's Brigade.

24th North Carolina.
25th North Carolina.
35th North Carolina.
49th North Carolina.
56th North Carolina.

Gracie's Brigade.

23d Alabama Battalion.
41st Alabama.
43d Alabama.
59th Alabama.
60th Alabama.

Elliott's Brigade.

17th South Carolina.
18th South Carolina.
22d South Carolina.
23d South Carolina.
26th South Carolina.

Wise's Brigade

26th Virginia.
34th Virginia.
46th Virginia.
59th Virginia.

ARTILLERY.

Col. HILARY P. JONES.

Moseley's Battalion.

Cumming's (North Carolina) battery.
Miller's (North Carolina) battery.
Pegram's (Virginia) battery.
Slaten's (Georgia) battery.
Young's (Virginia) battery.

Read's Battalion.

Blount's (Virginia) battery.
Hampden (Virginia) battery.
Macon's (Virginia) battery.
Marshall's (Virginia) battery.

Coit's Battalion.

Bradford's (Mississippi) battery.
Wright's (Virginia) battery.

Boggs' Battalion.

Martin's (Virginia) battery.
Sturdivant's (Virginia) battery.

CAVALRY.

Brig. Gen. JAMES DEARING.

7th Confederate, Col. V. H. Taliaferro.
62d Georgia, Col. Joel R. Griffin.
4th North Carolina, Col. Dennis D. Ferebee.
6th North Carolina, Col. George N. Folk.
Graham's (Virginia) battery, Horse Artillery, } Capt. Edward Graham.

DREWRY'S BLUFF.

Col. GEORGE H. TERRETT.

Neblett Artillery, Southside Artillery, } Col. George H. Terrett.

NOTE.—Two companies heavy artillery detached at Battery Dantzler, under Major Smith; three companies Marine Battalion detached by order of Secretary of Navy and ordered to Wilmington for secret service.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 2, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President of the Confederate States:

Mr. PRESIDENT: I beg leave to call your attention to the importance of immediate and vigorous measures to increase the strength of our armies, and to some suggestions as to the mode of doing it. The necessity is now great, and will soon be augmented by the results of the coming draft in the United States. As matters now stand we have no troops disposable to meet movements of the enemy or strike when opportunity presents, without taking them from the trenches and exposing some important point. The enemy's position enables him to move his troops to the right or left without our knowledge, until he has reached the point at which he aims, and we are then compelled to hurry our men to meet him, incurring the risk of being too late to check his progress and the additional risk of the advantage he may derive from their absence. This was fully illustrated in the late demonstration north of James River, which called troops from our lines here who, if present, might have prevented the occupation of the Weldon railroad. These rapid and distant movements also fatigue and exhaust our men, greatly impairing their efficiency in battle. It is not necessary, however, to enumerate all the reasons for recruiting our ranks. The necessity is as well known to Your Excellency as to myself and as much the object of your solicitude. The means of obtaining men for field duty, as far as I can see, are only three. A considerable number could be placed in the ranks by relieving all able-bodied white men employed as teamsters, cooks, mechanics, and laborers, and supplying their places with negroes. I think measures should be taken at once to substitute negroes for white in every place in the army, or connected with it, where the former can be used. It seems to me that we must choose between employing negroes ourselves or having them employed against us. A thorough and vigorous inspection of the rolls of exempted and detailed men is, in my opinion, of immediate importance.

I think you will agree with me that no man should be excused from service for any reason not deemed sufficient to entitle one already in

service to his discharge. I do not think that the decision of such questions can be made so well by any as by those whose experience with troops has made them acquainted with the urgent claims to relief, which are constantly brought to the attention of commanding officers, but which they are forced to deny. For this reason I would recommend that the rolls of exempts and details in each State be inspected by officers of character and influence, who have had experience in the field and have had nothing to do with the exemptions and details. If all that I have heard be true, I think it will be found that very different rules of action have been pursued toward men in service and those liable to it in the matter of exemptions and details, and I respectfully recommend that Your Excellency cause reports to be made by the Enrolling Bureau of the number of men enrolled in each State, the number sent to the field, and the number exempted or detailed. I regard this matter as of the utmost moment. Our ranks are constantly diminishing by battle and disease, and few recruits are received. The consequences are inevitable, and I feel confident that the time has come when no man capable of bearing arms should be excused, unless it be for some controlling reason of public necessity. The safety of the country requires this, in my judgment, and hardship to individuals must be disregarded in view of the calamity that would follow to the whole people if our armies meet with disaster. No detail of an arms-bearing man should be continued or granted, except for the performance of duty that is indispensable to the army, and that cannot be performed by one not liable to, or fit for, service. Agricultural details take numbers from the army without any corresponding advantage.

I think that the interests of land owners and cultivators may be relied upon to induce them to provide means for saving their crops, if they be sent to the field. If they remain at home their produce will only benefit the enemy, as our armies will be insufficient to defend them. If the officers and men detailed in the Conscript Bureau have performed their duties faithfully, they must have already brought out the chief part of those liable to duty, and have nothing to do now except to get such as from time to time reach military age. If this be true many of these officers and men can now be spared to the army. If not, they have been derelict, and should be sent back to the ranks, and their places supplied by others who will be more active. Such a policy will stimulate the energy of this class of men. The last resource is the reserve force. Men of this class can render great service in connection with regular troops, by taking their places in trenches, forts, &c., and leaving them free for active operations. I think no time should be lost in bringing out the entire strength of this class, particularly in Virginia and North Carolina. If I had the reserves of Virginia to hold the trenches here, or even to man those below Richmond on the north side of the river, they would render greater service than they can in any other way. They would give me a force to act with on the offensive or defensive, as might be necessary, without weakening any part of our lines. Their mere presence in the works below Richmond would prevent the enemy from making feints in that quarter to draw troops from here, except in such force as to endanger his own lines around Petersburg. But I feel confident that with vigorous effort, and an understanding on the part of the people of the necessity of the case, we could get more of this class than enough for the purpose last indicated. We could make our regular troops here available in the field. The same remarks are applicable to the reserves of North Carolina, who could render similar services at Wilmington, and allow the regular troops to

take the field against any force that might land there. I need not remind Your Excellency that the reserves are of great value in connection with our regular troops, to prevent disaster, but would be of little avail to retrieve it. For this reason they should be put in service before the numerical superiority of the enemy enables him to inflict a damaging blow upon the regular forces opposed to him. In my opinion the necessity for them will never be more urgent, or their services of greater value than now; and I entertain the same views as to the importance of immediately bringing into the regular service every man liable to military duty. It will be too late to do so after our armies meet with disaster, should such unfortunately be the case. I trust Your Excellency will excuse the length and earnestness of this letter, in view of the vital importance of its subject, and am confident that you will do all in your power to accomplish the objects I have in view.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 2, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. L. KEMPER,
Commanding Reserves, &c., Richmond:

GENERAL: The time has arrived when the reserves can be made of great service, and I am desirous to know what number is now available. I hope you have been able to bring out the whole available force in Virginia. The strength of the enemy is such that we can spare none of the regular troops from the trenches for active operations in the field. My object is to occupy the trenches with the reserve forces as far as possible, so as to make the other troops disposable for any opportunity to strike at the enemy. I shall be obliged to you if you will furnish me a statement of the whole number of reserves enrolled, and also of the number ready for immediate service. I should also like to know what time will be required to bring out the whole force.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 2, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to inclose a copy of the correspondence between General Gregg, U. S. Army, and myself in reference to his request to be allowed to send parties to Reams' Station to bury the Federal dead. His letter was sent by flag of truce on the morning of the 27th of August. After my reply to him I detailed parties to bury the dead of the enemy, which work was accomplished without any molestation from the enemy. My pickets have been established since the morning of the 26th ultimo two miles east of Reams' Station, and the enemy has not appeared in sight of the station since the fight of the 25th.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 27, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER CONFEDERATE CAVALRY,
At Reams' Station:

SIR: Understanding that there are unburied dead of the U. S. forces on the field at Reams' Station, I have the honor to request that burial parties from my command may be allowed to go to Reams' Station for the purpose of burying such dead as may there be found, and, this done, return within my lines.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS HAMPTON'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
August 27, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Hampton, commanding cavalry, Army of Northern Virginia.

M. C. BUTLER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 27, 1864.

General GREGG:

GENERAL: Your letter of this date asking that "burial parties might be allowed to go to Reams' Station, for the purpose of burying such dead as may there be found," has been referred to me. I cannot accede to this request, but I have ordered all your dead to be buried. Your wounded have been collected, and they are under charge of your surgeons.

I am, respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General, Comdg. Cavalry, Army of Northern Virginia.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 82. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND SOUTH. VA.,
September 2, 1864.

I. Paragraph VIII, Special Orders, No. 17,* current series, from these headquarters, is hereby modified to read as follows: The limits of the First Military District are hereby extended so as to include all that part of this department between the James, Roanoke, and Dan Rivers, excluding the defenses immediately around Richmond on south side of James River.

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By command of General Beauregard:

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Vol. XXXVI, Part III, p. 865.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
Petersburg, Va., September 2, 1864.

Col. G. W. BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Should it meet the approval of the general commanding, I would respectfully urge that Col. W. H. Wallace, of the Eighteenth South Carolina Regiment, may be (during the absence of Brig. Gen. S. Elliott) temporarily assigned to the command of Elliott's brigade, of this division, with the rank of brigadier-general. My reasons for soliciting the assignment for Colonel Wallace are as follows: First. That Brigadier-General Elliott's wound is not likely to permit him to return to duty pending the present season, during which we may anticipate important operations, and, indeed, the duties of this brigade in the trenches in front of the enemy demand that it should be rendered in all respects as efficient as possible. Second. Because Colonel Wallace is the officer best qualified in the brigade for the position proposed. Third. Because I believe that the efficiency of the brigade will be improved by this assignment, and that it is necessary that such assignment shall be made.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *September 2, 1864—8 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING,
Commanding Military District, Wilmington, N. C.:

Every exertion will be made to re-enforce you in time for all points. Governor Vance has already been called upon to imitate Governor Brown, of Georgia. Federal soldiers appear much discouraged. They fight badly. I will visit Wilmington soon.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 3, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Commanding C. S. Armies, Richmond:

GENERAL: Brigadier-General Perry, of Florida, who was wounded during the summer, has returned, but is not able to go on duty with his brigade, which is in the trenches, his wound still rendering him unfit to serve on foot. His brigade originally consisted of but three regiments, and is very much reduced. After the arrival of General Finegan with the re-enforcements from Florida last summer, Perry's small brigade was temporarily united with the new troops, and has been serving with them as one brigade, under General Finegan, until the present time. The whole makes but a small brigade, and I think the interests of the service require that what remains of Perry's original brigade should remain as it now is with the other Florida troops. If there is any duty in Florida to which General Perry can be assigned suitable to his present condition, or any command there which he could take when his wound is healed, I would recommend that he be assigned to it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, September 5, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to honorable Secretary of War.

The arrangement suggested by General Lee will no doubt conduce to the efficiency of the troops. I have not found that officers could, as a general rule, be advantageously employed near their homes, especially where they had been previously associated with political organizations.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

[Second indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 7, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Let the brigade remain as it now is and relieve General Perry till restored to health. Do you know any appropriate duty to which he can be assigned?

J. A. S[EDDON],
Secretary.

[Third indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 26, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Adjutant and Inspector General. Shall General Perry be ordered to General Jones?

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fourth indorsement.]

General Kemper informed me some days since that General Perry had been ordered to him for duty by General Lee, and that he had assigned him to the command of the reserves on the Rappahannock.

J. W. R[IELY].

[Fifth indorsement.]

Let this stand until General Kemper returns

S. C[OOPER].

[Sixth indorsement.]

Matters have changed since that time, and all the above is of no effect.

RIELY.

HEADQUARTERS,
September 3, 1864.

General HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: From the reports of your scouts I judge that the enemy is very open to attack at City Point and other points where his wagons are parked in his rear. I wish you would have the matter closely inquired into and the roads and distances you would have to travel. A sudden blow in that quarter might be detrimental to him. It also is probable from the movement of all his cavalry from his rear to his front, that he is meditating some attack or expedition to our right. I hope you will be prepared for this. Keep your cavalry as much to-

gether as possible, your pickets on the alert, and your scouts out and watchful. As soon as you hear of his being in motion take after him without further orders with all the force that can be withdrawn from the lines, and, if possible, destroy him. You must keep on hand three days' rations and forage so as to start without delay. I have thought it might be advantageous to assign the dismounts or a portion of them with their proper brigades. Why could they not do picket duty on some portion of the line?—at Poplar Spring Church, for instance, where you think infantry might be of service; they might save the horses. At all events, they must be properly officered, instructed, and disciplined. You have to fight so much on foot that they would, if advantageously organized, add greatly to your strength.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant

R. E. LEE,
General.

PETERSBURG, *September 3, 1864.*

Governor Z. B. VANCE,
Raleigh:

General Whiting apprehends an attack. Send him all the troops you can.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

PETERSBURG, *September 3, 1864.*

General W. H. C. WHITING,
Wilmington:

General Baker, at Goldsborough, has been ordered to hold all his disposable forces in readiness to aid you should you need them. Governor Vance and General Holmes have been requested to send you such troops as can be spared from the reserve.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

PETERSBURG, *September 3, 1864.*

General L. S. BAKER,
Goldsborough:

Hold all your disposable forces in readiness to sustain General Whiting, should he call for them.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND SOUTH. VA.,
No. 83. } *September 4, 1864.*

I. Col. C. H. Simonton, Twenty-fifth South Carolina Volunteers, is relieved from duty with his regiment and will report to Major-General Whiting at Wilmington, N. C., for assignment to the command of Forts Caswell and Campbell.

* * * * * * *

By command of General Beauregard.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, September 5, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: Your letter in relation to the defense of Wilmington has been received.* Every aid that I can render with the militia shall be given, though I will have arms for only a portion of them. A large part of those sent me from Richmond were unserviceable, but I am having them repaired as rapidly as possible. Allow me to make a few suggestions touching the defense of that important sea-port. There are two regiments there—the Thirty-sixth and Fortieth North Carolina Regiments, Young's battalion, numbering about 2,600 effective men. They are well-drilled and disciplined, but have never been under fire, and recent events at Mobile and elsewhere have demonstrated their inefficiency to hold their own under the fierce cannonade of the enemy's fleet. I would respectfully suggest the policy of sending them to the field and supplying their places with veteran troops. A less number of tried men, I feel assured, would be far more efficient, though I do not wish the garrison lessened, of course. In case a real attack should be made upon Wilmington I earnestly urge that General Beauregard should be sent there, and this not only because of the great confidence felt in him, but also because of the very little reposed in General Whiting. Since the affair at Petersburg the good opinion formed of that officer here by the apparent skill evident in the construction of the works around Wilmington has been dissipated to a painful extent. General Beauregard was intrusted with the defense of Charleston with the happiest results, and it cannot be denied that Wilmington is now of far more importance to the Confederacy. A great portion of my home guard is now in the field, and will be easily transferred to any point when desired. I am happy to say that several hundred deserters have already been apprehended or surrendered, and I trust to be able to get most of them in without again asking for regular soldiers.

I am, general, very truly and respectfully, your obedient servant,
Z. B. VANCE.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
September 10, 1864.

Respectfully submitted for perusal to His Excellency the President. His attention is invited to the request of committing the defense of Wilmington to General Beauregard. General Beauregard is now at Wilmington examining into its defenses, armament, and garrison. He has been previously informed that it is my desire to place him in command of Wilmington or Charleston, whichever may be attacked.

R. E. LEE,
General.

NEAR BLACK WATER, *September 5, 1864.*

[General HAMPTON:]

GENERAL: I have just returned from near City Point. The defenses are as follows, viz: At Wormley's Point, one mile northeast of City Point, are 1,200 dismounted cavalry. One mile southwest of City

* See August 29, p. 1206.

Point, and on the railroad, is an immense hospital and ambulance and wagon train. At the Old Court-House, three miles from the Point, is a very large pontoon train. At the old Frog-Hole Bridge is a small party getting out timber for breast-works and other purposes. At Cedar Level Station, three miles from the Point, is an immense amount of supplies; there is besides about one regiment of infantry acting as guard. The nearest point of picket-line you could strike is Colonel Green's farm, on the stage road; or, rather, the line is half a mile this side of Green's, on the stage road, running from Mount Sinai Church to Hite's place, thus cutting off a large bend in this road. Southeast of the Court-House, about five miles from City Point, is a small force of infantry, about one large regiment (negroes). The stream this side of City Point, about three miles, is impassable below Frog-Hole Bridge, which they could burn before it could be attained. At Coggins' Point are 3,000 beeves, attended by 120 men and 30 citizens, without arms. At Sycamore Church is one regiment of cavalry (First District of Columbia), about 250. This is the nearest point of the picket-line to Coggins' Point, about two miles. Sycamore Church is eight miles from Hines' Bridge, on the Blackwater; Hines' Bridge, three miles from Gee's Bridge, on Warwick Swamp, and five miles from Gee's residence. Enemy's cavalry are northwest of the Court-House. The greatest danger, I think, would be on the Jerusalem plank road in returning. The enemy are constructing a railroad from the City Point railroad to the Fifth Corps; it intersects the City Point road about six miles from City Point at a place called Jordan's. It is near this place they have their large mortar, which was firing last night; it is very large, placed on car wheels, and seems to be moved as the road progresses, which is fast. The Tenth Corps is on the right (this side Appomattox); Ninth, center; Fifth, next; Second on extreme left. I hear that they have a Fifteenth [Eighteenth] Corps, commanded by Ord. From best information Birney commands the Tenth Corps. This Fifteenth [Eighteenth] and Tenth Corps are on the other side of Appomattox. Butler has just returned (yesterday) from convention. It is thought more cavalry is about returning. Colonel Spear is under arrest for drunkenness, I understand; Stratton in command.

Your obedient scout,

SHADBURNE.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., September 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING,
Commanding, Wilmington, N. C.:

GENERAL: The success of the enemy in closing the port of Mobile will very probably encourage them to make efforts on Wilmington. From extracts in the Northern papers I perceive that the attention of that Government is being earnestly urged to the importance of this port and to the duty of assailing it. You are fully aware of its great value to the Confederacy, and I need scarcely add any reason to stimulate your habitual vigilance to discover and guard against the approach of the enemy.

On one point alone I wish to invite your earnest and special attention. Experience at Mobile, as well as at New Orleans and at other points, shows the danger of relying for the defense of forts on troops but little tried in war, and officers not thoroughly tested in their constancy, familiarity with danger, and invincible courage. I wish, therefore,

that you would scrutinize closely the composition of the forces holding the forts, and the character and qualities, as evinced by past services, of the officers in command, and make sure that you have in both material thoroughly reliable.

I will mention, in confidence, that one officer, Col. E. W. Jones, who formerly belonged to the Army of Tennessee, and who once commanded at Fort Carroll, and who is stated to be now holding an important command in one of your forts, has been mentioned to me by high official authority as not thoroughly reliable for courage and constancy. This was the only specification, but, in general terms, it was said that there were others whom it would be judicious to change.

To another subject I wish to invoke your attention. You are aware of the great importance of continued trade from the port, and of the interruptions to which it is now being subjected by the quarantine regulations. Would it not be possible to induce relaxation or modification by the State officers of the stringent regulations as to time and lading? The season is now so advanced that there is scarcely a possibility of the introduction of yellow fever into the city, and when no disease appears on the arrival of the ship, surely, by due fumigation and proper precautionary measures, adequate security could be afforded to allow ships to come up, unload, and be dispatched without the vexatious delays at present imposed. I wish you would urge these considerations strongly on the State Commissioners, and use your utmost influence to remove the impediments which at this critical time are operating seriously to the disadvantage of the Government.

Respectfully,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *September 7, 1864—10 p. m.*

Major-General WHITING,
Commanding General, Wilmington, N. C.:

I leave in morning with Colonel Waddy, Captain Chisolm, and Doctor Choppin, who intend to stop with their friends. I accept with pleasure your invitation.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS POST OF RICHMOND,
September 8, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose a report* of the inspection of the First Battalion Virginia Reserves, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Duke, and also a list* of the various detached guards at posts about the city. Colonel Duke's battalion is stationed on Belle Isle guarding Federal prisoners. It has been occasionally necessary to apply through General Kemper to Colonel Moore, commanding Rendezvous of Reserves, Richmond, for additional men; as Colonel Duke's command was not strong enough to furnish the requisite number and give proper relief to the sentinels, upon application, General Ewell has strength-

*Not found.

ened the force there (Belle Isle) by a detachment of 200 men from the heavy artillery battalions of the Richmond defenses. You will observe from the report that five-eighths of Colonel Duke's battalion are absent without my knowledge. I do not question the right of the general commanding the reserves to give such leaves under paragraph XIV of General Orders, No. 57, but it is an inconvenience to be unable to estimate what may be the strength of the command upon any given day in the future, not knowing to what extent it may be in this way depleted. This battalion was ordered to the city to supply the place of the Sixtieth Alabama Regiment. The latter had been ordered here, before my arrival, in place of the Twenty-fifth or City Battalion, as it was called. The Sixtieth Alabama was ordered by General Ewell to report to General Hampton at the time of the Sheridan raid. Upon my application for a force, the city then being entirely destitute of Confederate troops, this battalion of reserves was verbally ordered to Richmond by General Heth or General G. W. C. Lee for duty during what I then thought was the temporary absence of the Sixtieth Alabama.

To judge by the inclosed report Colonel Duke's battalion, in a strict sense, is not a part of the command of the post commandant. Of Colonel Moore I have no official knowledge. I believe he has been assigned to the command of the troops (reserves) from which, for the most part, the guards for the city are drawn. He does not report to me, nor do I in any way exercise control over him. Guards are also furnished from the First and Nineteenth Virginia Militia, commanded respectively by Colonels Danforth and Evans. These regiments are also portions of Colonel Moore's command. I, therefore, have exclusively under my command the President's Guards, consisting of two officers and thirty-eight men (present, sick, and absent), all disabled or recommended for light duty; a detachment of one officer, three non-commissioned officers, and thirteen privates of the Twenty-fifth Virginia Battalion on duty at the city mills, and sixteen disabled soldiers at the C. S. barracks (Soldiers' Home), commanded by Lieutenant Bates, and the detachment of artillery soldiers at Belle Isle. For the convenience of furnishing rations and supplies to the latter, and to avoid having two separate and distinct commands on the island, I have directed that it be taken up on Colonel Duke's report. I suppose it is necessary only to point out this mixed-up state of things to secure the remedy. To illustrate how impossible it is to get along in this way I shall state that a few days since a soldier on guard at the Libby Prison and belonging to the command of Colonel Moore was arrested by Major Turner, the commandant, and charges were preferred against him. Colonel Moore recommended that the charges be withdrawn, giving no reason for his recommendation. I therefore forwarded them, with a request that they be tried. Two days after an order was received from Colonel Moore withdrawing them. This was also forwarded. I understand that the Secretary of War has decided that General Kemper commands the reserves as a separate army. I have nothing to say to the propriety of this. Should General Lee detach from his army one or more battalions for duty at this post, during the time they were so detached they would be immediately under the command of the post commander. The same, I should think, would obtain with regard to the reserves, and is the case at Danville. As it stands now, I am called the post commander, and would be looked to by the Government for the interior protection of the city should the prisoners break out or should anything else occur requiring the exercise of military force. I cannot consent to occupy this anomalous position longer.

It requires about 1,250 men to do the necessary service of the post, supplying all the guards and giving proper reliefs to the soldiers. This will appear as follows:

Guard posts in city	81	
Privates to each post	3	
	243	
Men to be on duty every third day	3	
Privates required		729
On Belle Isle, privates per day	150	
	3	
Relief every third day		450
Total		1,179

Then there should be a small margin for sick, supernumeraries, and guards to send away in charge of prisoners when moved and Yankee deserters going to the lines of the enemy under General Orders, No. 65. This would make the 1,250 or 1,300. It is possible to make men do guard duty every other day; but it should be remembered that the reserves are composed mostly of old and in many cases infirm men. I would respectfully suggest that two or more battalions of reserves or other troops be assigned especially to this duty and placed immediately under the orders of the post commander. General Winder had two battalions of regular troops, amounting in numbers to my estimate above. If my suggestions are accepted, the guards can then be told off at regular brigade guard mounting and posted by the proper officer.

I wish it to be understood that my relations with General Kemper and Colonel Moore are of the most agreeable character. I find them most cautious and disposed to give me what assistance they can and to act in harmony with me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. M. GARDNER,
Brigadier-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS POST OF RICHMOND,
October 24, 1864.

Respectfully referred to the Adjutant and Inspector General for his information.

Condition of guard service represented in letter of 8th of September somewhat changed but not improved. Colonel Duke's battalion removed; no force to supply its place. There [are] upward of 2,000 prisoners of war now in the city; these cannot be sent south at present. I do not see, under the present arrangements, any use of a post commandant, except to lodge complaints against when prisoners escape on their transit south or in the city. The necessity of furnishing a proper garrison for the city and the possibility of doing it is for my superiors to decide.

W. M. GARDNER,
Brigadier-General.

[Second indorsement.]

NOVEMBER 2, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War, with the recommendation that Brigadier-General Gardner be at once assigned to duty

as Commissary-General of Prisoners, and Lieutenant-General Ewell be charged with the command of the post of Richmond, superadded to his other duties as commander of the defenses of Richmond. The two duties, in my judgment, are intimately connected, and will, if thus united, prevent the clashing of authority which is herein represented.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

[Third indorsement.]

NOVEMBER 4, 1864.

Recommendation approved, except that General Winder be ordered to general charge of prisoners.

J. A. S[EDDON],
Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, September 8, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have your letter of the 5th instant. The subject is matter to me of constant anxiety, and I have so often called the attention of the Department to the points on which you touch that I fear I am considered as importunate or needlessly apprehensive. The troops that are here have never been in action in the war. They are far too few for the garrisons of the forts, and ought at all times to be supported by veteran infantry, both to make the defense effectual and to permit them, as heavy artillery, to attend to their guns and drill. There are no infantry supports at all here, and the small garrison has to perform constant outpost and picket duty, to the material deterioration as practised artillerists. It must be remembered that the development and extent of the defenses here has been very greatly increased, I should say trebled, since I assumed command, yet there has been no increase of force at all to defend it. The permanent garrison of Fort Fisher should be 2,200 men; of Bald Head, the same; of Caswell and Campbell, 800 each. You will see what I have by the copy of a letter to General Beauregard, which I send you.* I agree with you, that only upon troops and officers thoroughly tested in their constancy, familiarity with danger, and invincible courage, can reliance be placed. Can you give me such? The warning of Mobile is before us. There is no place in the country now more important than this; there is no place now more liable to surprise, and yet the force here is now less than it ever has been during the war. When Foster's expedition was being fitted out for this place, at Beaufort, and which was afterward directed to Charleston by the attack of Flag-Officer Ingraham on the enemy's fleet, it was not thought sufficient to send me 8,000 veteran troops to aid the garrisons as a supporting force. At the present time, and warned of the danger, I have nothing but a few hundred boys and old men, utterly inefficient and unreliable, as experience has shown, and totally inadequate. It has now been three weeks since the Senior Reserves have been summoned for the defense of Wilmington, and in that time 324 have arrived, destitute of everything. The whole system of defense here has been placed and predicated on the presence of an army corps

* See p. 1212.

as a support. This has been urged and demonstrated in repeated memoirs on the subject. Indeed, no other system is practicable, and without it the position would be no more tenable than the Richmond defenses without the support of the army of General Lee.

I have felt this matter very deeply and given my most constant efforts to make the most of my means. I have refrained of late from addressing most urgent appeals to the Department, because General Lee deprecated my doing so, lest my opinion, getting abroad, might tend to discouragement. You tell me to scrutinize closely the composition of the forces holding the forts and the character and qualities of the officers, and to make sure that I have in both material thoroughly reliable. As I have said, these troops have not been in battle. I can only add they are at present unsupported. I believe they will do well; but you know what is acceded. Colonel Lamb, the commandant of Fort Fisher, is a most excellent and vigilant officer, full of skill and courage. I have every confidence in him. Is there not some mistake as to the identity of the officer of whom you speak in your letter? You give the initials as E. W. The officer here is T. M., in whom I have entire confidence. As for the Senior and Junior Reserves I think they would rather interfere with than aid. The little boys are prostrate with all the diseases of children and too weak to bear arms. Their officers, made by election, are entirely ignorant. These are the facts, and to you I see no use in disguising them. It may well be imagined that personally I shall leave no effort untried, knowing that if I lose this place, whether with troops or without them, I myself am lost. The matter of the quarantine is important, and I will endeavor to carry out your wishes and procure some relaxation of the regulations, as I have labored to do heretofore. The fever is represented, however, as very bad in Bermuda and Nassau, and the very name of it is terrible to this community. As the question of the defense of Wilmington may shortly become interesting, I beg to refer to my correspondence on this subject, both as to the mode of attack, probable lines and disposition, and of forces required.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 214. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, September 9, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

L. Paragraph XXXVII, Special Orders, No. 206, current series, is amended so as to read: Maj. I. H. Carrington, provost-marshal of Richmond, Va., will take charge of all deserters from the enemy, under General Orders, No. 65, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, and will forward such of them as he may designate, or such as may desire to go, to Abingdon, Va., thence to be sent to Kentucky and Ohio.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War.

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
September 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I have received your letter of 9 p. m. yesterday. The only difficulty of importance I see to your project is your return. I am not sufficiently acquainted with the country to say how that can be effected if embarrassed with cattle or wagons. That you must see to and have well arranged, taking such a circuit as to give ample space for your flank pickets to notify you of danger. Gregg is said to be near the Weldon railroad. His exact position should be ascertained and the troops left upon your present line should close upon him and watch him closely. I can move two brigades of infantry down the plank road behind Dearing. Let your movement depend upon the report of your scouts, and let me know your route, &c. Should time permit, a personal conference would be more satisfactory.

Very truly,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, September 10, 1864.

[Governor VANCE:]

GOVERNOR: Your letter of the 5th instant has been received. I am much gratified at your readiness and ability to render all the aid in your power in the defense of Wilmington. Of the former I never doubted, and think by combining all the forces of the Confederate and State Governments the security of the city may be insured. Your suggestions touching its defense have been in a measure anticipated. General Beauregard is now there with a view of examining into its defenses, armament, and garrison. One of the objects of his visit is to see whether a portion of the latter cannot be replaced by troops of experience, &c. It is uncertain yet whether the enemy will attack Charleston or Wilmington, but it is my desire to give to General Beauregard the defense of whichever place may be attacked. I hope nothing may prevent his services being thus applied. As soon as I receive an answer to my dispatch as to the number of arms you require for your State force I will endeavor to furnish them. Please state to what point they must be sent. The prospect of peace and independence depends very much upon the success of this campaign. I need not, therefore, inform Your Excellency of the importance of bringing and maintaining in the field all our available force. The life and safety of the people demand it.

I am, with great respect, Your Excellency's obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 10, 1864.

General G. E. PICKETT:

General Lee requests that the 3-inch gun that was to have been put in battery last night to fire on the Yankee tower by Captain Stuart open fire on the tower as soon as possible.

W. H. STEVENS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Engineer.

GENERAL BEAUREGARD'S HEADQUARTERS,
September 10, 1864.

Capt. W. D. STUART,
C. S. Engineers, General Pickett's Headquarters:

I will be up to-morrow to arrange about the change of guns Major Smith proposes. General Lee approves the plan. Meet me at Dantzler's between 9 and 10 a. m.

W. H. STEVENS,
Chief Engineer.

Abstract from field return of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee commanding, for September 10, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Aggregate present last return.
	Officers.	Men.			
First Army Corps (Anderson):					
Staff	11	.....	11	11	.....
Pickett's division	395	4,542	6,031	11,270	6,007
Field's division	440	4,046	5,638	12,254	5,510
Kershaw's division *a*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	846	8,588	11,680	23,535	11,517
Second Army Corps (Early):					
Staff	17	.....	17	19	17
Breckinridge's division	233	2,172	2,919	7,771	2,832
Rodes' division	349	3,244	4,401	16,018	4,165
Gordon's division	295	2,690	3,461	18,562	3,339
Ramseur's division	213	2,010	2,716	9,570	2,512
Carter's artillery	49	818	993	1,377	979
Total	1,156	10,934	14,507	53,317	13,844
Third Army Corps (Hill):					
Staff	16	.....	16	17	15
Heth's division	354	4,159	5,431	15,444	5,273
Mahone's division	360	4,120	5,951	15,258	5,876
Wilcox's division	389	4,211	5,609	14,157	5,281
Fifth Alabama Battalion	14	145	175	266	178
Total	1,133	12,635	17,182	45,142	16,623
Cavalry Corps (Hampton):					
Staff	12	.....	12	12	.....
Hampton's division	206	2,736	3,895	10,035	3,758
Fitz. Lee's division *b*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
W. H. F. Lee's division	151	2,545	3,257	6,399	3,163
Lomax's division	390	3,215	4,142	6,380	3,967
Horse Artillery	16	225	269	391	314
Dearing's brigade	88	1,430	1,820	2,538	1,778
Total	863	10,151	13,395	25,755	12,980
Artillery Corps (Pendleton):					
Staff	4	10	14	19	.....
Artillery First Corps	74	1,463	1,744	2,470	1,761
Artillery Third Corps	103	1,820	2,337	3,389	2,347
Hardaway's battalion, Second Corps	17	289	376	564	366
Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia.	55	904	1,138	1,629	.....
Total	253	4,486	5,609	8,071	4,474
Grand total	4,251	46,794	62,373	155,820	59,438

a No report.

b Detached.

Strength of the forces of infantry and artillery stationed near Petersburg, Va., General G. T. Beauregard commanding, September 10, 1864, as shown by inspection reports.

Troops.	Aggregate present for duty.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Present effective for the field.	Pieces of artillery.
Johnson's division (Johnson):					
Staff	4	4	5	.....	.....
Gracie's (Alabama) brigade (Gracie)	1,068	1,485	2,940	1,072	.....
Ransom's (North Carolina) brigade (McAfee)	1,722	2,272	3,726	1,575	.....
Elliott's (South Carolina) brigade (McMaster)	854	1,533	3,021	815	.....
Wise's (Virginia) brigade (Goode)	701	1,182	2,893	832	.....
Total	4,349	6,476	12,585	4,294	.....
Hoke's division (Hoke):					
Staff	18	18	21	18	.....
Clingman's brigade (Clingman)	824	1,120	3,021	1,121	.....
Martin's brigade (Zachry)	1,170	1,630	2,808	1,630	.....
Colquitt's brigade (Colquitt)	1,459	1,787	2,826	1,459	.....
Hagood's brigade (Hagood)	826	1,310	3,884	1,310	.....
Total	4,297	5,865	12,560	5,538	.....
Artillery (Jones):					
Staff	5	5	5	5	.....
Read's battalion *a*	296	339	487	296	16
Moseley's battalion *b*	301	346	504	301	14
Coit's battalion *c*	206	247	391	206	11
Boggs' battalion *d*	159	193	248	159	8
Total	967	1,130	1,655	967	49
Grand total	9,613	13,471	26,780	10,799	49

a Comprises Blount's, Macon's, Marshall's, and Sullivan's companies.
b Comprises Cumming's, Miller's, Slaten's, and Young's companies.
c Comprises Bradford's, Pegram's, and Wright's companies.
d Comprises Martin's and Sturdivant's companies.

Abstract from return of the First Military District, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, Brig. Gen. Henry A. Wise commanding, for September 10, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.	Prisoners of war.	
	Officers.	Men.					Officers.	Men.
Staff	4	10	10	14	15	.....	.....	.....
Holcombe Legion	25	413	436	496	644	.....	10	71
C. S. Zouave Battalion	9	32	35	50	73	.....	.....	.....
18th Georgia Battalion	13	198	206	223	296	.....	.....	.....
Virginia Reserves	11	135	176	199	378	.....	.....	3
Do	19	324	356	388	988	.....	.....	.....
Do	23	262	295	342	419	.....	.....	.....
Do	12	58	64	105	320	.....	.....	.....
Do	11	135	144	171	284	.....	.....	.....
Hood's battalion operatives	.....	.....	.....	.....	167	.....	.....	.....
Hobson's company second-class militia	4	35	35	47	49	.....	.....	.....
44th Virginia Battalion	11	167	172	200	288	.....	1	6
Virginia Reserves	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total infantry	138	1,759	1,919	2,221	3,906	.....	11	80
Section Bradford's battery	1	38	41	47	48	2	.....	.....
Section Company H, 62d Georgia	3	28	30	34	131	3	.....	.....
Total light artillery	4	66	71	81	179	5	.....	.....

Abstract from return of the First Military District, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.	Prisoners of war.	
	Officers.	Men.					Officers.	Men.
Detachment 34th Virginia Infantry	3	84	90	103	125	.....	.....	2
Detachment 10th North Carolina Artillery.	4	89	104	109	117	.....	.....	.....
Total heavy artillery	7	173	194	212	242	.....	.....	2
Signal corps	6	141	148	156	239	.....	1	21
Grand total	159	2,149	2,342	2,684	4,581	5	12	103

Extract from morning report of Poague's artillery battalion, September 10, 1864.

Battery.	Present.					Absent sick.
	Officers.	Non-commissioned officers.	Enlisted men.	Sick.	Total.	
Richards' battery	2	6	45	19	77	19
Johnston's battery	2	4	29	35	74	27
Williams' battery	1	9	44	18	84	17
Utterback's battery	2	10	28	9	55	20
Penick's battery	3	8	37	30	78	14
Total	10	37	183	111	368	97

PETERSBURG, *September 11, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Wilmington:

About 2 a. m. yesterday enemy broke this line in front of Hill's corps. It was soon restored. Slight casualties in Hoke's and Johnson's [divisions]. Three killed and 16 wounded.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 12, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond:

SIR: I have the honor to report that General Kemper, in a recent letter as to the available strength of the reserve force of Virginia, mentions that numerous details are being made from that class of clerks, guards, agents, employés, and laborers in the quartermaster's, commissary of subsistence, and ordnance departments. If these details relieve able-bodied men for field service, I think the substitution very

desirable, but if they only increase the number of men now employed by those departments it should by all means be forbidden. I respectfully ask that you will cause inquiry to be made on the subject, and if the case be as I suppose prohibit the continuance of the system. I would also ask that where such additional details have been made they be revoked, or that some able-bodied men in the office where they exist be sent to the army in lieu of the detailed reserve, if the latter is competent to perform the office duty.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 14, 1864.

Noted. The details referred to are intended to substitute able-bodied men and are in conformity with the law directing details to be made preferably from the infirm and reserve classes. Instructions have been given and will be renewed in consonance with General Lee's views.

J. A. S[EDDON],
Secretary.

WILMINGTON, *September 12, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

Everything here is in as good condition as means and circumstances will permit. Practical artillerists and proper infantry supports are most needed at present. I will leave here on Wednesday on my return to Petersburg, via Danville.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully referred to General Bragg.

JOHN W. RIELY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

PETERSBURG, *September 12, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Wilmington, N. C.:

Unusual quiet. Yesterday 3 killed and 2 wounded in the trenches.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS HAMPTON'S CAVALRY CORPS,
September 13, 1864.

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: In accordance with the instructions of the commanding general, I have the honor to apply for the detail of forty men and two commissioned officers from General Butler's division and the same from

General William Lee's division. This detachment will be furnished by me with the necessary tools, they will be armed with pistols only, and will serve during the contemplated movement of the cavalry as a mounted engineer troop, under my direction. I would designate Lieutenant Johnson, Company A, Fourth South Carolina Regiment, and Lieutenant Banskett, Sixth South Carolina Regiment, as suitable officers to take charge of the detail from General Butler's division. This detail will be furnished with tools as soon as it reports to me at these headquarters. The detail from General William Lee's division will report at General William Lee's headquarters to Lieut. F. Robertson, engineer officer, to whom I will forward instructions to furnish tools, &c.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. F. LANNEAU,

Lieutenant and Engineer Officer, Hampton's Corps.

N. B.—It is desirable that the details should be made up as far as practicable of men accustomed to the use of the ax.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 219. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, September 15, 1864.*

I. The several assistant quartermasters now on duty with regiments or battalions of infantry belonging to the First, Second, and Third Corps, of the Army of Northern Virginia, are relieved from duty with their respective commands, as contemplated in the second sectio : of the Act of Congress approved June 14, 1864 (No. 14, General Orders, No. 53, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series), and the following-named officers now serving with said army are re-assigned to duty as hereinafter indicated:

Army headquarters: Lieut. Col. J. L. Corley, chief quartermaster, Army of Northern Virginia; Maj. A. L. Land, assistant to chief quartermaster, Army of Northern Virginia; Maj. John A. Harman, forage quartermaster, Army of Northern Virginia; Capt. A. M. Garber, assistant quartermaster, assistant to forage quartermaster, Army of Northern Virginia; Capts. John M. Allen, John Glaize, R. S. Bell, assistants to forage quartermaster, Army of Northern Virginia; Maj. E. H. Janney, issuing quartermaster, Army of Northern Virginia; Capt. W. M. Cary, assistant to issuing quartermaster, Army of Northern Virginia; Capt. G. W. Shell, in charge of army supply train; Capt. W. C. Marrow, paymaster; Capt. S. M. Somers, in charge of army ordnance train; Capt. J. T. Bernard, in charge of army ambulance train; Capts. George S. Thompson, W. F. Thomas, depot quartermasters.

Cavalry headquarters: Maj. N. R. Fitzhugh, quartermaster; Capt. J. M. Hanger, in charge of property.

First Corps headquarters: Maj. E. Taylor, corps quartermaster; Capt. F. Potts, corps paymaster; Capts. J. C. Maben, James P. Phillips, assistants to corps quartermaster; Capt. W. T. Meade, in charge of ordnance train; Capt. R. B. Moon, Fifty-third Virginia Regiment, medical and ambulance train.

Pickett's division headquarters: Capt. A. W. Williams, assistant quartermaster, paymaster; Capt. J. H. Holt, assistant to division quartermaster; Capt. David Meade, division commissary train; Capt. T. P. Wallace, Thirteenth Virginia Regiment, division ordnance train.

Field's division headquarters: Maj. H. C. Deshields, division quartermaster; Capt. J. W. McLure, Palmetto Sharpshooters, property quar-

termaster; Capt. T. V. Sanford, Forty-seventh Virginia Regiment, paymaster; Capt. J. N. Crockett, Fifth South Carolina Regiment, division commissary train; Capt. E. A. Wilcox, Eighth Georgia Regiment, division ordnance train.

Kershaw's division headquarters: Maj. W. D. Peck, division quartermaster; Capt. G. T. McGehee, Twenty-first Mississippi Regiment, assistant to division quartermaster; Capt. J. J. Villepigue, Second South Carolina Regiment, paymaster; Capt. M. J. Atkins, Fifty-first Georgia Regiment, division ordnance train; Capt. Frank Lumpkin, Cobb's Georgia Legion, division commissary train.

Second Corps headquarters: Maj. John D. Rogers, corps quartermaster; Capt. A. Martin, assistant quartermaster, Thirty-third Virginia Regiment, in charge of stores; Capt. John Preston, Thirty-seventh Virginia Regiment, in charge of ambulance train; Capt. A. Elhart, paymaster.

Gordon's division: Maj. G. D. Mercer, division quartermaster; Capt. J. D. Brooks, assistant quartermaster, Fifth Virginia Regiment, assistant division quartermaster; Capt. C. White, assistant quartermaster, Forty-fourth Virginia Regiment, assistant division quartermaster; Capt. C. G. Merritt, assistant quartermaster, Twenty-fifth Virginia Regiment, in charge commissary train; Capt. A. S. Stonebreaker, Second Virginia Regiment, in charge ordnance train.

Evans' brigade: Maj. James Bruce, brigade quartermaster; Capt. Ker. Boyce, assistant quartermaster, Twelfth Georgia Battalion, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. W. H. Stiles, Jr., assistant quartermaster, Sixtieth Georgia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Terry's brigade: Capt. R. L. Francisco, assistant quartermaster, Fourth Virginia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. G. P. Persinger, assistant quartermaster, Twenty-seventh Virginia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

York's brigade: Maj. Francis Rawle, brigade quartermaster; Capt. James Buckner, assistant quartermaster, Tenth Louisiana Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. W. J. Hughes, assistant quartermaster, Ninth Louisiana Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Rodes' division: Maj. N. M. Tanner, division quartermaster; Capt. J. B. Burwell, Fifty-third North Carolina Regiment, assistant to division quartermaster; Capt. R. F. Langdon, Third North Carolina Regiment, in charge ordnance train; Capt. W. J. Neary, Forty-fourth Georgia Regiment, in charge commissary train.

Doles' brigade: Maj. H. K. Daniel, brigade quartermaster; Capt. Howard Tinsley, Fourth Georgia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. A. S. Reid, Twelfth Georgia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Cox's brigade: Maj. B. D. Williams, brigade quartermaster.

Battle's brigade: Maj. J. C. Bryan, brigade quartermaster; Capt. H. A. Haralson, Sixth Alabama Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Grimes' brigade: Capt. J. L. Frensley, assistant quartermaster, Thirty-second North Carolina, acting brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. B. Stafford, assistant quartermaster, Forty-third North Carolina, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. Prior Reynolds, assistant quartermaster, Forty-fifth North Carolina, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Ramseur's division: Maj. C. E. Snodgrass, division quartermaster; Capt. V. E. Turner, Twenty-third North Carolina, assistant to division

quartermaster; Capt. W. G. McNeely, Fifty-seventh North Carolina, assistant to division quartermaster; Capt. J. R. Vogler, Twenty-first North Carolina, in charge commissary train.

Johnston's brigade: Maj. W. M. Payne, brigade quartermaster; Capt. R. S. Harris, assistant quartermaster, Twentieth North Carolina, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. S. Northington, Twelfth North Carolina, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Pegram's brigade: Maj. J. W. Bell, brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. H. Baughan, Thirteenth Virginia, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. George M. Cochran, jr., Fifty-second [Virginia], assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Hoke's brigade: Capt. T. H. Brame, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Third Corps headquarters: Maj. J. G. Field, corps quartermaster; Capt. W. S. P. Mayo, paymaster; Capt. John Lightfoot, reserve ordnance train; Capt. J. D. Wilder, Twenty-second North Carolina Regiment, assistant to corps quartermaster; Capt. John Whitchard, Tenth Georgia Battalion, medical and ambulance train.

Heth's division headquarters: Capt. J. F. Cage, in charge commissary train; Capt. R. P. McClain, paymaster, Seventh Tennessee Regiment; Capt. W. H. Brannon, First Tennessee Regiment, assistant to division quartermaster; Capt. J. J. Thomas, Forty-seventh North Carolina Regiment, assistant to division quartermaster.

Anderson's division headquarters: Maj. J. A. Johnston, division quartermaster; Capt. H. J. Stone, paymaster; Capt. J. L. Briscoe, in charge commissary train; Capt. O. H. P. Corprew, Sixth Virginia Regiment, assistant to division quartermaster; Capt. R. C. Osborne, Twelfth Virginia Regiment, assistant to division quartermaster.

Wilcox's division headquarters: Maj. N. E. Scales, division quartermaster; Capt. R. M. Oates, in charge of commissary train; Capt. C. D. Hill, Thirteenth North Carolina Rifles, paymaster; Capt. R. W. Gaillard, Twelfth South Carolina Regiment [*sic*]; Capt. J. M. Tate, in charge of ordnance train.

Hunton's brigade: Maj. George T. Jones, brigade quartermaster; Capt. S. C. Price, Nineteenth Virginia, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Barton's brigade: Maj. B. S. Thompson, brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. Compton, Nineteenth Virginia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. T. Averett, Thirty-eighth Virginia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Kemper's brigade: Maj. N. W. Crisler, brigade quartermaster; Capt. R. C. Woods, Twenty-fourth Virginia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. Cameron L. Thompson, Fifty-second Georgia, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Corse's brigade: Maj. R. H. Turner, brigade quartermaster; Capt. W. C. N. Carr, Fifteenth Virginia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. T. P. McCandlish, Thirty-second Virginia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Anderson's brigade: Maj. Josephus Guthrie, brigade quartermaster; Capt. R. K. Holliday, Seventh Georgia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. W. Sutlive, Ninth Georgia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Benning's brigade: Maj. W. E. Bird, brigade quartermaster; Capt. A. C. Norton, Twentieth Georgia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. H. W. Forbes, Fifteenth Georgia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Law's brigade: Maj. W. H. Scruggs, brigade quartermaster; Capt. Robert Lapsley, Forty-fourth Alabama, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. W. Hudson, Fourth Alabama, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Bratton's brigade: Maj. W. H. Quincy, brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. L. Agurs, Sixth South Carolina Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. W. L. Shoup, Second South Carolina Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Gregg's brigade: Maj. J. H. Littlefield, brigade quartermaster; Capt. W. N. Norwood, Fifth Texas Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. A. Rust, Third Arkansas Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Wofford's brigade: Capt. A. S. Turner, Twenty-fourth Georgia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Kershaw's brigade: Capt. J. M. Henegan, Eighth South Carolina Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. T. W. Woodward, Twentieth South Carolina Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Bryan's brigade: Maj. L. S. McGuire, brigade quartermaster; Capt. W. H. Briggs, Fiftieth Georgia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. M. Ponder, Fifty-third Georgia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Humphreys' brigade: Maj. P. M. Doherty, brigade quartermaster; Capt. Samuel Frank, Seventh Mississippi Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. H. Turner, Thirteenth Mississippi Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Mahone's brigade: Capt. George J. Rogers, Forty-first Virginia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. A. E. Etheridge, Sixty-first Virginia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Perrin's brigade: Maj. J. G. Pierce, brigade quartermaster; Capt. E. R. Peabody, Sixty-fourth Georgia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. J. Harris, Fourteenth Alabama Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Wright's brigade: Maj. R. L. McWhorter, brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. L. Keith, Twenty-second Georgia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. G. W. Evans, Forty-eighth Georgia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Finegan's and Perry's brigade: Maj. D. W. Hinkle, brigade quartermaster; Capt. F. C. Sollee, First Florida Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. H. Johnson, Second Florida Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Scales' brigade: Maj. A. H. Galloway, brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. W. Clarke, Thirty-fourth North Carolina Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. S. McElroy, Sixteenth North Carolina Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Thomas' brigade: Maj. R. T. Taylor, brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. T. Brown, Forty-fifth Georgia Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Harris' brigade: Maj. H. J. Hearsey, brigade quartermaster; Capt. D. W. Ducie, Sixteenth Mississippi Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. A. T. Owens, Nineteenth Mississippi Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Lane's brigade: Maj. E. W. Herndon, brigade quartermaster; Capt. A. D. Cazeaux, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. R. Sudderth, Thirty-third North Carolina, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

McGowan's brigade: Maj. H. Hammond, brigade quartermaster; Capt. R. L. McCaughrin, Fourteenth South Carolina, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. R. E. B. Hewetson, First South Carolina, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Kirkland's brigade: Maj. G. P. Collins, brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. J. Young, Twenty-sixth North Carolina Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. John Gatlin, Fifty-second North Carolina Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Cooke's brigade: Maj. E. M. Braxton, brigade quartermaster; Capt. C. H. Thomas, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. W. White, Twenty-seventh North Carolina Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Davis' brigade: Major J. S. Reid, brigade quartermaster; Capt. L. P. Cooper, Forty-second Mississippi Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. S. Owens, Eleventh Mississippi Regiment, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Archer's brigade: Capt. A. J. Allensworth, Fourteenth Tennessee, assistant to brigade quartermaster; Capt. W. O. Haggerty, Thirteenth Tennessee, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Walker's brigade: Maj. J. D. Keiley, jr., brigade quartermaster; Maj. J. L. Powers, Twenty-second Virginia Regiment.

* * * * * * *

XVIII. Authority is hereby granted Maj. W. S. Basinger, commanding, &c., at Mattoax, to impress 100 slaves from the county of Amelia, Va., for labor on the works now in course of construction at Flat Creek and Mattoax Stations. In making the impressments a care should be had that those who have heretofore furnished slaves should, as a general rule, be passed over, in order that the burden may fall on all alike.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PETERSBURG, *September 15, 1864.*

General J. A. WALKER,
Burkeville:

The enemy seems to be moving. Instruct your commanders at bridges to be on the alert.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

PETERSBURG, *September 15, 1864.*
(Received at Stony Creek.)

Capt. A. B. WOODRUFF,
Commanding:

Be on the alert and prepared. Enemy is moving in some direction.

HENRY A. WISE,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 220. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, September 16, 1864.*

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XIII. Col. R. C. Trigg, of Fifty-fourth Regiment Virginia Volunteers, will, whilst on furlough, collect the deserters and absentees without leave from his command and employ them for the dispersion and arrest of deserters and disaffected persons said to be banded in his vicinity, and after such service to return his men to their command.

* * * * * * *

XVI. Capt. James Boyd, of Company A, Twenty-fifth Regiment Virginia Volunteers, will proceed to Northwestern Virginia, within the enemy's lines, and recruit men to fill up his company, and also bring out any deserters and absentees to their proper commands, and recruit for any other companies in the field.

* * * * * * *

XXI. Col. Robert Tansill, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty as inspector-general in the District of Wilmington, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, and will report to Maj. Gen. W. H. C. Whiting, commanding, &c., Wilmington, N. C.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 16, 1864.

Governor Z. B. VANCE,
Raleigh, N. C.:

Twenty-six hundred muskets have been sent to you, and orders have been issued for 400 to be sent from Salisbury.

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 16, 1864.

J. L. MORROW,
Asst. Supt. Richmond and Danville Railroad, Richmond, Va.:

Movement of enemy yesterday was but a reconnaissance. Our entire picket-line was re-established. At present no indications of any move toward your road.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
Petersburg, Va., September 16, 1864.

Col. GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I would respectfully suggest that for the future it may be best to place either Hoke's division or mine in reserve and permit our whole line to be occupied by one division as at present. This arrangement will enable us at all times to bring a heavy force to bear on any

point that may be assailed, while, under ordinary circumstances, one division will be sufficient to hold the line. I have one regiment now in reserve in rear of Colquitt's salient. The only addition which will perhaps seem desirable will be a reserve in rear of Elliott's salient.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, N. C., September 16, 1864.

General GILMER:

GENERAL: You can chiefly aid me now in increasing and maintaining a large and constant supply of labor. My laboring force is entirely inadequate for the great demand upon it. I should also like you to push forward to completion as rapidly as possible the galvanic submarine batteries which ought to be down complete now. I have the insulated wire. This matter, however, is, I believe, in the hands of the Navy. At any rate you can urge prompt action. But, especially, I hope you will urge and constantly call the attention of the War Department to the necessity of the presence of a strong supporting force. This I maintain to be needed at all times to prevent surprise, much more so when it is supposed the enemy mean to attack. The whole system of defense adopted here is predicated entirely on the presence of a movable force or army corps. The enemy have too many lines of attack open to make self-sustaining forts of much avail. The different routes or lines of attack he may probably adopt have all been discussed and represented to the War Department. Those to which you call attention are those which especially demonstrate the absolute need of infantry support. It will not be enough to be sure that Caswell or Fisher or Smith's Island are secure against a sudden dash or the passage of the enemy's fleets. The enemy must not be allowed to make a lodgment. At Piney Point I prefer to establish lines and station a brigade to putting up a fort, which could readily be turned, and for which I have neither the guns nor crew. The presence of a strong force there would make land operations against Fort Caswell very hazardous for the enemy. But the force is necessary. At present I have but 600 men on the whole of Oak Island, yet the garrison of Campbell and Caswell should be 800 each, besides the brigade required for support at Piney Point. So on Smith's Island the force should be increased to 2,500, at Fort Fisher to 2,200. The proper disposition, then, of the supporting army would be a brigade at the head of the sound, occupying the strong position from Gatlin's battery across to the Sugar Loaf; a brigade at Smithville or Piney Point, and three brigades, the main body or reserve, on the sound between Wrightsville and Whisky Creek. By waiting until after the enemy has chosen his point of attack and made good his foothold, great disaster may occur; much hard work and more men are certain to be needed.

In these views and the system of defense General Beauregard agrees. The only difficulty in the pressure upon us is everywhere for men. It is for the Department to weigh the relative importance of different positions. One thing I beg leave to urge: Let not this defense be intrusted to reserves at all. One veteran soldier will be worth a half dozen. If it is considered essential to save this place, on all accounts let old regiments come here. The defenders here must go through an ordeal that only old soldiers can stand, and it must be remembered

that the garrisons here have never been in action. The re-enforcements or supporting corps ought surely to be soldiers. I beg you will urge these considerations. I have written so much and called attention so frequently to the defense of this place, its wants and difficulties, that I fear my views are not considered, or regarded as those of an alarmist. Considerations from an independent source may meet with more attention. However that may be, they are correct, and time will show it.

With regard to the two lines of attack you present, the line by Lockwood's Folly and Oak Island makes an increased force here indispensable, and it should be ready to operate before the landing is effected. Manifestly, the garrisons of Caswell and Campbell, even if they were sufficiently strong, could not be taken away to operate against their advance. On Smith's Island the lines are very strong, but the force is entirely inadequate to so extensive a position. I regard it as the key of the harbor. It shall be re-enforced at once. For the sound, the northerly attack, the disposition above indicated of troops near Masonborough is the only one I know of to be effective. The points of landing are so numerous that we cannot provide the whole coast with artillery defenses. We can only hold men and light batteries in hand for action, and for this must have the men and batteries; that is all, and these I have not got. Against the road approaches I have strong lines on the Sound and Holly Shelter roads, to which I could throw my forces. But the defenses of the city are useless, except as against a raid or sudden cavalry attack. When the city is approached by a force which could compel my troops to fall back upon it the harbor is gone beyond peradventure, for any such movement gives the enemy the peninsula between this and Fort Fisher, and, of course, possession of the river.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, September 16, 1864.

Brig. Gen. L. HÉBERT, *Commanding, &c., Smithville:*

MY DEAR GENERAL: I send you a letter* of General Gilmer on which I would like to have your views. I have answered it myself, but I should like to forward something from you; you know my opinions pretty well and the absolute necessity of a sympathizing friend when it should be posted. All the suggestions about obstacles, self-sustaining works, &c., will effect nothing, even if carried out without troops. We have no troops to man any more works, not enough for those we have built. Infantry lines, light batteries, and a brigade are better at Piney Point than any fort. With the strong lines on Smith's Island the same may be said. My position of a brigade between the Sugar Loaf and Gatlin for the support of Fisher and those between Wrightsville and Whisky Creek is better than any other obstacle. When the enemy advance with a force onto the city, and compels me to fall back into the town, the harbor is lost beyond peradventure. But take Gilmer's letter, analyze it your own way, bring forward your own views, and let me send them on. General Beauregard agrees with me. The more we can bring to bear the better our chance for improvements.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

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*Not found.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, September 16, 1864.

[Col. D. MCRAE:]

I have read with surprise your editorial upon a communication published in the New York Times advocating an early attack on Wilmington. Surprise, not at its evident reflections on myself, for I have learned that members of the press in general show but little care as to the effect of their articles on the reputation of individuals, who, in a public position, may be the subjects of discussion, but that you should publish an article which will tend to weaken the defense of this important place. I am sure you have had no such intention, but you are of influence in the State, politically, socially, and in your present position; you have been a soldier, and a brave and gallant one, as I have often borne witness. As such, I ask you frankly: Ought you not to have informed yourself as to what I have done already for the defense of Wilmington and what is being done before you indicated to the people your want of confidence in me and so weakened greatly my position as commanding general? The matter is one of the greatest importance. You and every North Carolinian and every Southron are interested, and I can blame no one for the expression of anxiety, earnest as my own, that Wilmington should be properly and indomitably defended. Will your remarks help the matter? Can they help Wilmington? I do not wish to speak of myself further than this: that I was transferred by the President from the command of one of the noblest divisions of the army, one which, neither under me nor under my more distinguished successors, Generals Hood and Field, ever knew defeat, to undertake the defense of Wilmington. I presume this was done on account of my supposed professional fitness for such duty. Will it aid me or help the defense for the report to be spread that there is no confidence in me? I beg you not to misunderstand me as putting this question to you in my own interest at all. You are a patriot, and provided our last hold upon the water is maintained it is certainly nothing to you whether it is done by me or by any one else. That it should be done and well done must alone be your object. But in furtherance of that, let me ask you if you can spare a few days to examine for yourself what has been done here. I will take pleasure in enabling you to see everything, even to—in confidence—my correspondence. You will learn in what condition it was when I took command, in what it is now, what warnings have been given, how far I must be held responsible up to this time, perhaps how far I am fit. You will be able to judge for yourself how far I have the confidence of my troops, whatever may be the opinion of the people of Raleigh, or of others, who, unlike yourself, have kept out of this war. And you will then be in position to discuss this important question from knowledge and information. I shall be happy to welcome you. Be good enough to understand that I take no exception to your remarks as far as they affect me personally, only as they affect the defense. Perhaps I am not a judge in the premises. But you may be assured that I have but one object here, and that is to save this place and hold it. Whether that is to be done by others, and there are many better than I, is nothing, so it is done.

Please to consider this as a private letter, not in any way intended for publication. Should you accept the proposition I have made to see for yourself, and I think you owe it to your position to inform yourself fully of the matter you discuss, I can, of course, take no exception to any criticisms you may deem to make hereafter, founded on your own observation. The President, General Lee, and General Beauregard,

who has just visited this place, are pleased to have confidence in me so far, and doubtless with such support I may be careless of outside remarks, but I have endeavored to write this letter to you in the interest of the cause, not my own. I hope you will take it in that spirit. One word more: when the hour of trial comes no doubt you and many other men of North Carolina will hasten to the defense of Wilmington; and you will be needed. Accept, then, my invitation to examine for yourself what has been done in the way of preparation. All the art of the engineer is useless, unless his works are held by strong and willing hearts. If, so far, nothing that could be done has been left undone, and that I want you to see, help him when the time comes rather than weaken him beforehand. And this I ask, not for myself alone, but for the country and for whoever may be here in my place, if I am not here, or if I am subordinate.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 17, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond:

SIR: There is immediate necessity for the services of 5,000 negroes for thirty days to labor on the fortifications at this place, those on James River, around Richmond, at Danville, and at several points on the South Side and Danville railroads. The amount of labor to be done, and the importance of having it done promptly, make it impossible to exact it of the troops without impairing their efficiency and requiring their absence from exposed positions. Much of the work is to be performed at places where there are few or no troops at present, but where it is deemed proper to prepare for possible future operations. I think the necessity sufficiently urgent to justify calling for this labor at once. From your indorsement upon the applications of General Stevens for negroes, I understand that you think that the act of Congress of February 17, 1864, does not empower you to order the impressment of slaves engaged in raising grain or provisions, but that the general commanding the department where their services are needed has the power to do so. I am willing to exercise such powers as I possess in the premises, but have no instruments to put them in execution. I cannot consistently with the exigencies of the service detail officers and soldiers from the army for this duty, nor, if I could, would that agency be suitable in my judgment. The impressments would not be made equally and justly, as the officers would necessarily be ignorant of the comparative resources and wants of the districts in which they would have to operate. If the agents of the Conscript Bureau can be employed for the purpose I am prepared to give them such authority to act as I lawfully may. They could consult with the local authorities and arrange for the prompt execution of the impressment in such manner as to be least injurious to the agricultural interests. I inclose* a tabular statement of the quotas of the counties from which it is proposed to draw the negroes, showing the credits to which each is entitled. The number called for is large, but allowance must be

* See schedule annexed to paragraph XLII, Special Orders, No. 224, September 21, p. 1268.

made for failure in some quarters, and as the negroes will be sent on at different times, there will not be as great a number as the call embraces taken from the farms at any one time. I respectfully ask instructions how to proceed at your earliest convenience.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[SEPTEMBER 17, 1864.—For Lee to Seddon, reporting affair at Coggins' Point (16th) and other operations, see Part I, p. 852.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., September 17, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING,
Commanding, Wilmington, N. C.:

GENERAL: Your letter relative to the construction of a bridge across the Cape Fear River to connect certain railroads was referred to the Engineer Bureau, which reports:

Careful inquiries, examinations, surveys, and reports have been made and the undertaking found to require much material and labor. As the gauges of the two roads meeting at Wilmington are different, as the connection through Petersburg is broken, and as the presidents of the two railroad companies at Wilmington, on direct appeal, decline to give any aid to the construction of the proposed bridge, favorable action in the within proposition is not recommended.

Respectfully,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 17, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Hicksford, also Weldon and Stony Creek:

Body of enemy's cavalry, estimated between 3,000 and 5,000, passed down Jerusalem plank road to-day. Be on the lookout and prepared for them should they move toward you.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
September 17, 1864.

General J. A. EARLY:

GENERAL: I have been very anxious to recall General Anderson with Kershaw's division to me. But a victory at this time over Sheridan would be greatly advantageous to us, and I feared that your corps would be insufficient for the purpose. General Anderson is more necessary here than in the Valley, and I have written to him to return with his staff if circumstances permit, and to direct General Kershaw with his division to report to you for the present. Should you and he decide that Kershaw's division is unnecessary in the Valley, I wish it to return with General A. It is my intention to send to you Rosser's

brigade of cavalry as soon as I can discover the intentions of General Grant. I then think you will be able to spare Kershaw. In the meantime I wish you to defeat Sheridan if your strength is sufficient. He seems disposed to protect himself under his intrenchments. If you could draw him up the Valley and fall upon him suddenly, or throw a body of troops behind him, you might succeed in defeating him. If you think it best for you to remain on the defensive and can spare Kershaw, send him to me as secretly as you can, for I will then take the offensive myself. If you retain Kershaw, hold him in readiness to send to me at a moment's notice, and keep his division in as efficient condition as possible.

Wishing you success, I remain, very truly,

R. E. LEE,
General.

RICHMOND, VA., *September 18, 1864.*

HON. HERSCHEL V. JOHNSON:

MY DEAR SIR: In regard to the law and regulations relating to foreign commerce I perceive by your reply that my explanation must have been very imperfect, else you would have seen that, in so far as charters of vessels had been made at a previous date, they were excepted from the operation of the regulations, but only in relation to those chartered after the passage of the law and the promulgation of the regulations had any question been raised. The veto message was intended to show the impolicy of yielding to an attempt to use the States to evade the law and defeat the purpose of Congress. My objections were sustained by such a majority as relieves me from the supposed want of deference to the legislative will. The clamor to which you allude was not to be silenced by concession, as has been abundantly proved by experiment, but if it had been otherwise the case was one involving the public interest, which could not be bartered away. You are, no doubt, right in your conclusion that General Johnston was not relieved soon enough, but the judgment is sustained upon evidence which was not possessed before the event. I did not anticipate the abandonment of the mountain region of Georgia, and if General Johnston had informed me that he would retreat to Atlanta, he would have been sooner relieved, as it was my opinion then, as clearly as now, that Atlanta could be best defended by holding some of the strong positions to the north of it. You ask me to resolve "that General Hood shall succeed," and for this purpose give the means, even if other points "are uncovered temporarily." All that was done for General Johnston when he was at Dalton. Charleston, Savannah, Mobile, Mississippi, and North Alabama were stripped to give him a force which would insure success so speedily that the troops could return to these places in time to prevent disaster. The resolution did not bring success, but results have followed.

The concentration referred to had, I suppose, attracted your attention, as I perceive, in suggesting further action of like kind, you look to Virginia and ask if Early and Breckinridge cannot be sent to Georgia, your supposition being that they would do more good in Sherman's rear than by raiding in Pennsylvania. Not long after Congress left Richmond the enemy advanced into the Valley of the Shenandoah, defeated the small force we had there, and moved to the execution of a plan which was to destroy all communications with Richmond, as well

from the west as from the south, and thus to compel the evacuation of the capital. Breckinridge, with a division, and, subsequently, Early, with a corps, were sent to check the advance of the enemy. This was not effected until after he had reached Lynchburg. Our success there drove him in disorder toward the northwest, and gave us an opportunity to assume the offensive, with not unreasonable hope of capturing his capital instead of losing our own. The invasion by Sherman or Grant might as well be denominated a raid as that of Pennsylvania by Early. To save their capital, troops en route to Grant were diverted to Washington, and other troops were drawn from Grant to the same place, and the enemy soon had a large force on the upper Potomac. If, then, Early's army had been withdrawn, the enemy could, with their increased force and, therefore, better prospects of success, again have entered on the campaign which had been terminated at Lynchburg, and I should probably have had to exercise the power Congress conferred on me before their adjournment by indicating a new place for their next meeting, and for the want of supplies it would, with equal probability, have become necessary to transfer General Lee's army to the new field of operations.

I do not entertain your apprehension that Early's movement into the enemy's country will weaken the peace element there; on the other hand, it seems to me that if we could make them feel the evils of war at their own door that they would much more fully realize the blessings of peace and much more numerously sustain the policy of stopping the war. It has been necessity alone which has justified our attitude of defense, as it was surely greatly to have been preferred that the battle-fields, with the desolation which is their constant attendant, should all have been on the enemy's soil. Among the reasons for that preference I should estimate as not the least the effect it would have in leading the minds of our enemies to a peaceful solution of the questions at issue, and the future observance of their obligations to our States and people. I have not failed to appreciate your motive, and your frankness needed no apology. Suggestions are often useful, even though not adopted at the time and in the manner proposed, and I too fully realize my need of assistance to be otherwise than thankful for well-meant advice. The first effect of disaster is to always spread a deeper gloom than is due to the occasion. No one was more anxious than myself to prevent the fall of Atlanta. I was not among those who deemed that result inevitable as soon as the enemy had crossed the Chattahoochee, and I was not willing that it should be yielded before manly blows had been struck for its preservation. I think it can be recovered; that if the absentees from Hood's army can be sent back, and the men of Georgia who, by operations of the law are exempt from military service, will give temporarily their aid, that Sherman's army can be driven out of Georgia—perhaps be utterly destroyed. To that end we need the support of a public opinion which will drive to the army all who belong to it and all who ought to belong to it, and with confidence I appeal to you for aid.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

[SEPTEMBER 19, 1864.—For Lee to Davis, in reference to Beauregard's assignment to command of Military Division of the West, see Vol. XXXIX, Part II, p. 846.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., September 19, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 17th instant, relative to the impressment of 5,000 slaves to work on the fortifications. You are right in supposing my reference of the subject to you was owing to doubts whether my powers allowed the impressment of slaves engaged in agriculture and whether the discretion was not confided exclusively to commanding generals. I should not have hesitated on the score of responsibility, nor should I have troubled you about a matter which more appropriately pertains to the administrative duties of the Department. While, however, your authoritative sanction is required for the impressment, I do not consider it necessary you should exercise it by officers of your army. In this opinion, too, the Assistant Secretary of War, to whose legal opinion great deference is justly due, concurs. The agencies of the Conscript Bureau will, therefore, in my judgment, be appropriately employed in making the impressments without delay. Orders will be issued referring to your call, and stating the impressment to be necessary in your judgment, and impressing upon the officers of that bureau the importance of a prompt execution of the duty. I trust the number of laborers will be speedily forthcoming.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 20, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday, with reference to the impressment of negroes for work on fortifications, &c., and thank you for the prompt measures you have taken in the premises. I think that the time has arrived when the public safety requires that we shall employ negro labor with the army in all cases where it can be used to relieve able-bodied white men. The teamsters and other laborers employed in the quartermaster's department, the laborers engaged in cutting wood for mines and factories, machine shops, &c., and all doing mere manual labor in connection with supplying the armies, can be well taken from this class, and the white men now detailed for that purpose put in the ranks. The accession to our numbers by this means would be great, and I need not repeat what I have said as to the necessity of recruiting our armies. I understood the act of Congress of 17th of February last as designed to clothe the department with this authority, as its title and preamble indicate. The slaves called for in my last letter for thirty days, as I understand the subject, are to be impressed in accordance with a former law, passed to regulate temporary impressment of negro labor. This former law is referred to in the law of 17th of February to regulate the manner of impressment, but not, as I understand it, to limit or alter the powers conferred by the latter act. If I am correct in this view, I respectfully urge the exercise of this power by the Department without delay, to the extent of replacing all detailed men in service with negroes where the latter can be used with advantage, and all white laborers in

Government employ whose work can be done by slaves or free negroes. In addition to thus substituting negroes for whites, I recommend the impressment to be extended far enough to provide a corps of laborers for the army to prevent the necessity of many of those temporary details that are now made to cut wood, work on roads, &c. I shall require a large force to build roads, cut and transport wood, and make other preparations for the supply and comfort of the troops at this place during the winter months. These preparations are absolutely necessary, or the health and efficiency of the army will be greatly impaired by exposure and accumulated labor.

It is impossible, also, owing to the proximity of the enemy, to take the troops from the lines, as was done last winter on the Rapidan, to do this work. Among other things that will have to be done in order to save our animals and procure adequate supplies of fuel, a short railroad will have to be constructed to connect us with suitable wood for fuel, the green pine around us being unfit for that purpose. I trust you will find means to give effect to these suggestions, if I am correct in my interpretation of the law. I inclose a copy of an order said to have been issued by General Kirby Smith, which seems to me to be in accordance with the law in the main, and would recommend that something of the same kind be done at once here.* I am informed that there is some legislation by the State on the subject of obtaining negro labor, and the Governor may, if applied to, lend us material assistance. I beg to assure you that it is, in my [opinion], necessary for us to use our negroes in this war if we would maintain ourselves and prevent them from being employed against us. I am confident that our people will contribute this species of property with as much willingness as they have all others, and no time should be lost in procuring the great addition to our resources which the use of our negroes can afford us.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 21, 1864.

Captain LAY:

Please examine carefully both the suggestions and the law, and confer with me.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 223. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, September 20, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

IV. The several assistant quartermasters now on duty with regiments or battalions of infantry belonging to General G. T. Beauregard's command, are relieved from their present service, as contemplated in the third section of the act of Congress, approved June 14, 1864 (No. 14, General Orders, No. 53, current series), and the following-named officers now serving with said commands are reassigned to duty as hereinafter indicated:

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* See General Orders, No. 55, July 20, Vol. XLI, Part II, p. 1014.

Army headquarters: Maj. E. Willis, chief quartermaster; Maj. J. B. Hill, Elliott's brigade, corps paymaster; Capt. R. C. McKinney, Twenty-third Georgia, reserve ordnance train; Capt. W. L. J. Reid, Twenty-sixth South Carolina, forage quartermaster; Capt. G. W. Evans, Forty-eighth Georgia, army ambulances.

Hoke's division: Maj. J. Hughes, division quartermaster; Capt. W. C. Jordan, Sixty-sixth North Carolina, division paymaster; Capt. J. J. Cox, Thirty-first North Carolina, division ordnance train; Capt. J. H. Gray, Sixth Georgia, division supply train.

Johnson's division: Maj. C. L. Randolph, division quartermaster; Capt. A. O. Houston, Forty-third Alabama, division paymaster; Capt. A. J. Miller, Twenty-fifth North Carolina, division supply train; Capt. W. Fellers, Thirty-fourth Virginia, division ordnance train.

Wise's brigade: Maj. H. C. Watkins, brigade quartermaster; Capt. N. J. Thomas, Forty-sixth Virginia, brigade assistant; Capt. J. M. Nicolson, Twenty-sixth Virginia, brigade assistant.

Elliott's brigade: Maj. E. L. Hord, Gracie's brigade, brigade quartermaster; Capt. P. O. Lemmons, Eighteenth South Carolina, assistant brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. V. McNamee, Twenty-second South Carolina, assistant brigade quartermaster.

Gracie's brigade: Capt. J. J. Keigler, Fifty-ninth Alabama, assistant brigade quartermaster; Capt. J. A. Fitzpatrick, Twenty-third Alabama, assistant brigade quartermaster; ——— ———, brigade quartermaster.

Hagood's brigade: Maj. G. B. Lartigue, brigade quartermaster; Capt. R. P. Gantt, Eleventh South Carolina Volunteers, brigade assistant; Capt. J. E. Adger, Twenty-fifth South Carolina Volunteers, brigade assistant.

Colquitt's brigade: Maj. R. N. Ely, brigade quartermaster; Capt. S. V. Sheats, Nineteenth Georgia, brigade assistant; Capt. G. B. Buchanan, Twenty-seventh Georgia, assistant to brigade quartermaster.

Clingman's brigade: Maj. A. M. Erwin, brigade quartermaster; Capt. O. P. Meares, Sixty-first North Carolina, brigade assistant; Capt. H. C. Rockwell, Fifty-first North Carolina, brigade assistant.

Martin's brigade: Capt. J. S. Dancy, Seventeenth North Carolina, acting brigade quartermaster; Capt. R. P. Bessent, Forty-second North Carolina, brigade assistant.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 20, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel MOSELEY,
Acting Chief of Arty., Dept. of N. Carolina and Southern Va.:

COLONEL: On visiting to-day General Johnson's line and consulting with himself, I ascertained several things respecting the artillery service on that line requiring immediate attention and remedy.

First. There is no systematic communication between the chief artillery officer on the line and General Johnson, who commands the whole. In Colonel Jones' absence you are, I believe, in charge of all that artillery. You will please, therefore, arrange for daily consultation with General Johnson, either in person or through your adjutant, so as to be informed

of his views and have them accomplished where not in conflict with instructions from the commanding general, and in case of such conflict appearing to you, you will immediately report the fact to these headquarters, so that the decision of the commanding general may be obtained.

Second. Serious abuses seem to be creeping into the artillery service on that line in consequence of the mode and extent of relieving the officers and men of the several batteries: First, officers coming into certain positions do not sufficiently familiarize themselves with the field of fire of the guns coming under their charge; second, there is not sufficient watchfulness at every gun to observe whatever occasion may arise for firing it and have it promptly fired when it can be done with damage to the enemy and advantage to ourselves; third, there are not men enough retained at some of the guns—at least six men ought to be at hand for each gun, in case of action or casualty; fourth, no proper [care] seems to be taken to repair injuries to gun carriages and implements nor to readjust the works when impaired by the enemy's fire. I observed a gun carriage of one of Read's batteries, now served by Young's company, one wheel of which was really disabled by a shot of the enemy carrying off part of the tire, and it stands there from day to day and week to week without any one appearing to feel responsible for neglect. You will please to give particular attention to all such points, and cause the artillery commanders on the line to be assiduous in correcting all evils of the kind and rendering their arm thoroughly efficient for whatever service it may be called to render there any day or hour.

Third. While artillery duels are not to be engaged in, our guns and mortars must be always used with vigor when working parties of the enemy can be damaged or his lines or troops be seriously annoyed; and in cases where he concentrates a severe fire on one point our guns at other points should operate to interrupt his fire and divert it.

Fourth. Artillerymen ought in justice bear a fair proportion of the labor of preparing and renovating the works for their own protection. It is complained that they depend too much for this upon details from infantry. Officers and men will at once perceive what is proper in this, and will, I doubt not, cheerfully perform their part.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

P. S.—I wish you to see General Johnson this evening, especially as to the advisability or not of firing on parties cutting down a forest in front of General Gracie. As I have not time to have this copied first, please return it for that purpose.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
Petersburg, Va., September 20, 1864.

Maj. GEORGE C. BROWN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Lieut. Gen. Ewell's Staff, Richmond, Va.:

MAJOR: Inclosed I forward to you a remonstrance from the officers of Johnson's old brigade against consolidation with any other command. The original application of Brigadier-General Archer for the consolidation of Johnson's brigade with his own, which called forth this remonstrance, was sent to Colonel Hughs, about two weeks ago, for his remarks, with instructions to return the paper to these head-

quarters. It has not yet been returned, and it is supposed that Colonel Hughs forwarded the paper directly to your office; if it is still in your office please place the inclosed with it and forward them together. If, however, the original application has not reached your office, be kind enough to direct Colonel Hughs to forward it immediately, in order that it may accompany the inclosed remonstrance.*

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. FOOTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S BRIGADE,
Signal Hill, Va., September 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. R. JOHNSON,
Petersburg, Va.:

The application of Brigadier-General Archer for this brigade to be transferred to his command having been submitted to us, we, the undersigned, in behalf of the officers and men of this command, respectfully beg leave to enter our solemn protest against consolidation with or transfer to any brigade. The members of this command, to a man, are opposed to any arrangement by which they may lose their identity as a brigade. We have existed as an organization, known as Johnson's brigade, now exceeding two long years. We have fought on many battle-fields and undergone innumerable hardships together. Officers and men have vied with each other to make Johnson's brigade second to none in the armies of the Confederate States. After the battles of Shiloh and Perryville, where we lost over one-half of our original numbers, we entered Tennessee and recruited to a very large brigade before the battle of Murfreesborough. On that memorable and ensanguined field the brigade acted a conspicuous part, being in Cleburne's division and on the extreme left of the enemy. There we lost 672 officers and men. Even after this heavy loss we again recruited the command to almost the maximum number required by law. At Hoover's Gap we suffered severely, Stewart's division, of which we formed a part, being the only troops confronting the enemy at that point and Johnson's brigade bringing up the rear of the army to Chattanooga. After the demoralization of the retreat from our own State and a campaign in East Tennessee and North Georgia, we again met the enemy on the glorious and ever-memorable field of Chickamauga. Here, as you are aware, our losses were very heavy, being over one-half of the entire command. About 23d of November, 1863, we left the Army of Tennessee to re-enforce General Longstreet at Knoxville. We arrived in time to take part in that engagement. At Bean's Station the command composed one-third of the force in your successful attack and rout of a greatly superior enemy, numbering about five to one. The whole winter of 1863 was a series of active operations. The troops of this command were kept constantly on outpost duty and suffered immensely, both from exposure and lack of supplies, never remaining stationary or in quarters but for a few days at a time. We were taken from that scene of action about 1st of May, 1864, and brought to Richmond, Va., where we arrived just in time to confront the enemy at Port Walthall and Fort Clifton. It will be remembered that a detachment of men from this brigade, under Lieut. F. M. Kelso, manned the guns at Fort Clifton, and resisted successfully the advance of five of the enemy's

* See Foote to Brown, September 24, p. 1283.

gun-boats, sinking one and disabling and repulsing the others. At Drewry's Bluff, on 16th of May following, our losses were heavy, both in officers and men.

On 15th, 16th, 17th, again on 30th of June and 1st of July, we were engaged in battles before Petersburg, Va. Our losses were augmented, including valuable officers. This brigade has lost twelve field officers killed and three permanently disabled from field service. Seven of these field officers were killed in the fights around Richmond and Petersburg in the present campaign. On every field Johnson's brigade has shown uniform valor, gaining laurels of which they are justly proud. Would it not be injustice to consolidate such a command and cause it thereby to lose its identity? To say the least, would it not be ungrateful? When our absent members, who are not permanently disabled and prisoners of war, shall return, we will muster, as shown by our reports, over 1,650 officers and men. Should we be so fortunate as to again enter our beloved State, we pledge ourselves to recruit the command to its maximum number in six weeks. We know that this can be done without resorting to conscription, for Johnson's brigade is well and favorably known and mainly composed of men living south of Murfreesborough.

We have made this statement to you in justice to ourselves and the brave men we represent, trusting that you will use every endeavor to prevent our being swallowed up by any other command. We feel our indebtedness to you in a great measure for our present standing, and believe that you will take that interest in your old brigade which will defeat this measure. If we are allowed to remain as a separate organization and continued in the Department of Richmond until it becomes generally known throughout the South, we believe that there are Tennesseeans enough within our lines, "refugees from home," to swell our ranks to a respectable number. We hear daily of men in the enemy's lines desirous of joining us, but what chance have they at present? It is true that it may be urged that the transfer proposed is to be only temporary, but experience has shown that those temporary annexations do, after a lapse of time, by general assent, become permanent. Should this transfer be ordered in the face of the present strong opposition to it the most unhappy results may be anticipated, the energies of the officers would become paralyzed, and the spirit of the men broken.

Very respectfully,

JOHN M. HUGHS,
Colonel, Commanding Johnson's Brigade.
WM. H. FULKERSON,
Major, Commanding Sixty-third Tennessee Regiment.
U. C. HARRISON,
Senior Captain Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment.
HORACE READY,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Seventeenth and Twenty-third Regiments.
R. B. SNOWDEN,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Forty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Tennessee.
J. E. SPENCER,
Senior Capt. and Acting Major Forty-fourth Tennessee Regiment.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
September 19, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

There can be no doubt that the sentiments of the officers and men of this brigade are strongly opposed to a combination with any other bri-

gade, however worthy or distinguished. This arises in part from experience resulting from the consolidation of regiments, and in part from a desire to preserve its identity in connection with its past history, its honorable deeds on fields that will be memorable in all future ages, the toils, privations, and heroic deeds, as well of the living as of the venerated dead, the memories of whose virtues hallow the very name it bears, unworthy though that name be. The men and officers still hope to return in triumph to their native State, and none but they can perhaps appreciate the unspeakable pride they will have, bearing there a distinct name and organization with all the glorious associations of the past. Though I may be excused for peculiar sentiments of regard for this brigade, I believe, in recommending that the combination proposed be not authorized, I but pointedly subserve the real interest of the Confederacy and the public good.

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

Abstract from tri-monthly return of the Department of Richmond, Lieut. Gen. Richard S. Ewell commanding, for September 20, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.	Prisoners.	
	Officers.	Men.					Officers.	Men.
General staff	12	.....	.....	12	12	.....	.....	.....
Johnson's brigade	[illegible]	341	385	745	1,734	.....	47	461
25th Virginia Battalion	[illegible]	208	325	542	844	.....	1	14
1st Virginia Regiment Reserves	19	287	318	360	788	.....	.....	.....
Total	79	836	1,028	1,647	3,366	.....	48	475
Gary's cavalry brigade	52	813	1,245	1,522	2,670	.....	7	177
Artillery Defenses	103	2,228	2,458	2,804	3,305	26	2	1
Grand total	246	3,877	4,731	5,985	9,353	26	57	653

Abstract from return of the First Military District, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, Brig. Gen. Henry A. Wise commanding, for September 20, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.	Prisoners of war.	
	Officers.	Men.					Officers.	Men.
Staff	4	10	10	14	14	.....	.....	.....
Holcombe Legion	26	368	396	490	647	.....	10	68
C. S. Zouave Battalion	9	32	35	50	73	.....	.....	.....
44th Virginia Battalion	12	161	167	196	289	.....	.....	.....
Virginia Reserves	11	135	144	171	284	.....	.....	.....
Do	23	368	393	426	989	.....	.....	.....
18th Georgia Battalion and Virginia Reserves.	25	352	396	437	680	.....	.....	.....

Abstract from return of the First Military District, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.	Prisoners of war.	
	Officers.	Men.					Officers.	Men.
Virginia Reserves	18	245	271	324	393	.....	.....	.....
Do	28	414	435	486	883	.....	.....	.....
Archer's (Virginia) Reserves	12	45	49	88	310	.....	.....	.....
Hood's Battalion Operatives	.....	.....	.....	.....	167	.....	.....	.....
Battalion Second-Class Militia, Petersburg (Hobson's company).	3	37	37	48	51	.....	.....	.....
Total infantry	167	2,157	2,323	2,716	4,766	.....	10	68
Bradford's battery (section)	1	38	41	47	48	2	.....	.....
62d Georgia, Company H	3	28	30	34	131	3	.....	.....
Total light artillery	4	66	71	81	179	5	.....	.....
34th Virginia Regiment Infantry (detachment).	3	86	92	102	125	.....	.....	2
10th North Carolina Artillery (detachment).	4	84	98	109	117	.....	.....	.....
Total heavy artillery	7	170	190	211	242	.....	.....	2
Independent Signal Corps	5	135	143	150	239	.....	1	21
Grand total	187	2,538	2,737	3,172	5,440	5	11	91

Organization of troops in the First Military District, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, commanded by Brig. Gen. Henry A. Wise, September 20, 1864.

HOLCOMBE LEGION.

Capt. A. B. WOODRUFF.

Stony Creek (four companies).
Nottoway Bridge (four companies).
Rowanty Bridge (two companies).

FORT CLIFTON.

Lieut. Col. HENRY T. GUION.

34th Virginia Infantry (detachment).
10th North Carolina Artillery (detachment).

HICKSFORD.

Lieut. Col. JOHN J. GARNETT.

C. S. Zouaves.
Virginia Reserves.
62d Georgia, Company H, Lieut. A. M. G. Wiggins.
Bradford's artillery (section), Lieut. A. J. Cochran.

HIGH BRIDGE, MATTOAX, AND STAUNTON RIVER BRIDGE.

Brig. Gen. JAMES A. WALKER.

Virginia Reserves.
18th Georgia Battalion, Maj. William S. Basinger.
Virginia Reserves, Lieut. Col. Benjamin L. Farinholt.

DANVILLE.

Virginia Reserves.

PETERSBURG.

Maj. W. H. KER.

44th Virginia Battalion, Capt. Thomas W. Branch.
Operatives, Maj. Willam H. Hood.
Second-Class Militia, Capt. Owen H. Hobson.
Virginia Reserves, Maj. William H. Jarvis.
Independent Signal Corps, Maj. James F. Milligan.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 224. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, September 21, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

XXXI. Maj. S. B. French, commissary of subsistence, Provisional Army, C. S., will proceed without delay to Wilmington and such other points in North Carolina as he may deem advisable for the purpose of regulating the distribution of subsistence stores, under orders of the Commissary-General. Officers of the quartermaster's department will promptly provide the necessary transportation to the points indicated by Major French for all stores requiring removal.

* * * * * * *

XXXIII. Col. S. D. Lowe, of the Invalid Corps, is assigned to duty as commandant of the post at Asheville, N. C., and will report accordingly.

* * * * * * *

XLII. The general commanding the Army of Northern Virginia represents to this department that there is an urgent necessity for the services of 5,000 slaves with his army for the term of thirty days after their report for duty, and that the services of these are not attainable by contract nor by the employment or impressment of free negroes. The Bureau of Conscription, through its officers, will proceed to impress the slaves required according to the schedule hereto annexed, as furnished by the general commanding. Slaves under eighteen and over fifty years of age will not be impressed, nor slaves engaged in the family and domestic service as house servants, nor more than one slave out of five on any one farm or plantation, and when there are but three slaves of the age specified on a farm none shall be taken. The Quartermaster-General will make the requisite provision for transportation, and the Commissary-General will provide subsistence for them, or when the masters supply food to their slaves will commute at the rates allowed to soldiers in the service. The officers placed in charge of the slaves will cause proper rolls to be made and direct the appraisement of the slaves, so as to secure to the master, in case of loss, the benefit of the act of Congress of the 17th of February, 1864, relative to compensation.

A list of counties upon which to base a call for 5,000 slaves for labor on the fortifications to serve for thirty days.

County.	Quota called for.	Credit by number furnished under recent calls.	Quota due.	County.	Quota called for.	Credit by number furnished under recent calls.	Quota due.
Albemarle	253	153	100	Henrico	131	58	73
Amelia	143	.....	143	City of Richmond	158	344	.....
Amherst	117	17	100	Henry	85	.....	85
Appomattox	85	.....	85	Louisa	183	.....	183
Augusta	88	.....	88	Lunenburg	118	.....	118
Staunton	14	.....	14	Mecklenburg	326	.....	326
Bedford	182	.....	182	Montgomery	42	.....	42
Botetourt	57	.....	57	Nelson	90	12	78
Brunswick	148	.....	148	Nottoway	102	.....	102
Buckingham	130	147	.....	Pittsylvania	247	.....	247
Campbell	180	.....	180	Town of Danville	20	.....	20
Lynchburg	30	17	13	Powhatan	105	92	13
Charlotte	178	.....	178	Prince Edward	120	.....	120
Chesterfield	149	.....	149	Patrick	37	.....	37
Cumberland	127	101	26	Pulaski	32	.....	32
Dinwiddie	130	.....	130	Roanoke	54	.....	54
Petersburg	80	.....	80	Rockbridge	77	.....	77
Fluvanna	74	86	.....	Russell	20	.....	20
Franklin	117	.....	117	Washington	46	.....	46
Goochland	115	.....	115	Wythe	38	.....	38
Greensville	79	.....	79				
Halifax	295	.....	295	Total	4,974	1,027	4,162
Hanover	172	.....	172				

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., September 22, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 20th instant and to thank you for the full expression of your views relative to the impressment and supply of slaves for service with the armies. Concurring in your general views, I shall proceed at once to impress and collect, to the number of 20,000, as authorized by the act of Congress, for employment with the armies. I propose likewise to have all free negroes of the age for service enrolled and organized thoroughly, to be employed mainly in localities most exposed and where there is the greatest danger of slaves running away. I think these negroes, whether free or slave, had better be arranged and organized into something like companies, battalions, and regiments, after the plan adopted by the English, with reference to what they call navvies, or laborers, with superintendents and overseers in lieu of officers. From these organizations appropriate details may be made, singly or by squads, companies, or the like, for the various duties in which they are intended to be employed. Many advantages, I think, would result from this system in enabling us to preserve better order and exercise more care and supervision over the negroes so employed. The requisite number deemed necessary might be sent to the armies in organized bodies and the requisite details made by commanding officers. Orders will be

promptly issued, and as little delay as possible be allowed in their execution. I hope these views may have the concurrence of your judgment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS,
September 22, 1864.

General WADE HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: General William Lee's note of to-day forwarded by you is received. I presume Gregg is about making an expedition or to recruit his cavalry. It is possible he may go north of James River. Early has met with a reverse in the Valley and fallen back to Fisher's Hill (two miles above Strasburg). Sheridan confronts him and is fortifying. Wilson's division is moving up the Luray Valley, and is opposed by Lee's division under Wickham. Fitz Lee is wounded. I fear Wickham is too weak. It may be their plan for Gregg to join Wilson this side of the mountains. Keep your scouts on the alert and be prepared to move in any direction.

Very truly,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 226. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., September 23, 1864.

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XXIV. The Third Battalion Local Defense Troops having been increased to ten companies will from this day be known as the Third Regiment Local Defense Troops.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 23, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to transmit the inclosed inspection reports for the month of August, and in doing so would respectfully submit a statement of facts explaining the delay as well as the incompleteness of the reports:

After the commencement of active operations, Colonel Murray, then chief inspector of the army, wrote to the Department in Richmond that it was impracticable to make inspections as prescribed by General Orders, No. 42, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, during the constant movements of a campaign, and that he would discontinue them unless otherwise directed. No answer being made to

his letter the silence was accepted as an acquiescence in his suggestion and no inspections were made. On the 3d of August an order was addressed to Colonel Murray, requiring a resumption of the inspections and a transmittal of the reports as heretofore required. Colonel M. being absent sick, I issued the inclosed circular* to the corps inspectors in accordance with instructions contained in the order. Many causes have operated to prevent a prompt and satisfactory execution of this order. From General Early's command the reports are necessarily meager, owing to the fact that that corps has been constantly on the march or in line of battle. Colonel Smead, the inspector of that army, whose position and opportunities enable him to present a general view of the condition of the corps, makes no report and conveys no information of any sort. He neither indorses nor comments upon the brigade and division reports. The reports for the last of the month have not been forwarded. I have delayed the transmittal of my own report, hoping to receive these. It will be seen that there is general complaint throughout this command of the indifferent clothing of the troops, including shoes. There are no indorsements of the quartermasters except in one or two cases, showing the cause of this deficiency, nor does Colonel Smead throw any light on the subject. His attention has been called to this omission.

It is a matter of congratulation that the health of this command is universally good. There is an abundance of medicines and ordnance stores, secured in great part from battle-fields. The inspectors have made no return of captured property, as required by circular of instructions from Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, Richmond. The discipline is represented as a general thing lax; not more so, perhaps, than could be expected under the circumstances. Attention is called to the remarks of Major Moore, inspector of Gordon's division, from which it will appear that that command had performed "from the 13th of June to the 20th of August 800 miles of route marching, independent of movements in the presence of the enemy, and been engaged in seventeen battles and skirmishes, some of which have lasted through two and three days." It will be seen that none of the reports are made according to the instructions at the bottom of the third page of the form. Desks containing the records having been left behind when General Early moved from Staunton, it was not practicable to obtain the data necessary to fill up all the columns and thereby perfect the reports. Attention is called to my indorsements on brigade reports of this corps.

First Corps, Lieutenant-General Anderson (Maj. John W. Fairfax, assistant adjutant and inspector general).

No report has been made by Major Fairfax. He and Major Latrobe accompanied General Anderson to the Valley with Kershaw's division. Pickett's and Field's divisions report directly to these headquarters. Inclosed * will please find reports of inspectors of these divisions.

Pickett's division (Maj. W. Harrison, inspector), is situated between the James and Appomattox Rivers, and has suffered considerably from ague and fever, a disease peculiar to that locality. Corse's brigade, resting on James River, has suffered most. Attention is called to Major Harrison's report and remarks of Surgeon Guild, medical director of the army. I made a general informal inspection of the whole of this division and a more special inspection of Hunton's brigade.

* Not found.

I found the general condition of trenches, sinks, arms, accouterments, and clothing of General H.'s brigade good. This brigade deserves special mention. It was in all respects most creditable. General H. bivouacs in the trenches with his men, and is active and vigilant in all that is promotive of the comfort and efficiency of his command. Attention is called to report of brigade inspector for the strength of the brigade and the number of officers absent, by what authority, &c. There is a large proportion of absent disabled officers in this brigade. I would respectfully suggest that they be made to appear before an examining board for discharge or retirement. The same thing should be required of absent officers in all the brigades. Hundreds, if not thousands, of meritorious young officers are denied all hopes of promotion, because wounded officers long disabled, some for more than two years (see the accompanying lists*), still keep their names upon the rolls. It is an injury to the service and a special wrong inflicted upon those brave men who have so long borne the perils and responsibilities of command without the corresponding rank. The prompt remedy of this evil will remove a feeling of discontent that now prevails to a greater or less extent in every brigade of the army. Attention is called to Major Harrison's remarks on the subject of increased desertion in this division. It will be seen that the reports of this division, according to instructions, page 3, are also incomplete. Hereafter the form shall be strictly complied with.

Field's division (Major Masters, inspector): Not having been able to make a personal inspection of this division, attention is called to report of Major Masters. He reports health good; the sick and wounded to have had most excellent attention. Clothing and shoes are reported needed, but are being rapidly supplied; discipline is relaxed and the command in need of drilling and other military instruction. Damages committed are said to have been duly assessed (I fear that the facts now being investigated will prove Major Masters to have been mistaken in this last assertion). Complaints have been made by different parties against this division, the truthfulness of which will be determined and reported in my next monthly report. The long absence of this division from the Army of Northern Virginia prevents my speaking from personal knowledge of its general condition.

Third Corps, Lieut. Gen. A. P. Hill (Maj. R. J. Wingate, inspector).

This corps is stationed in the trenches in front of Petersburg, composing the right of our infantry line. During the month of August Major Wingate, assistant inspector-general of the corps, was absent on sick leave; Captain Adams, signal officer on General Hill's staff, acted in his place. Captain A. has made no report, but has sent the accompanying note,* stating his inability to make any personal inspections. I do not consider his reasons for not inspecting are sufficient; with proper energy and diligence two if not three of the divisions could have been inspected. Captain A. is inexperienced in the duties of the office, and has rendered me but little assistance. There has been great delay in transmitting reports, all of which had to be returned on account of the errors they contained. (They were returned to-day, 23d of September.) Major Wingate having returned to duty, I hope there will be no occasion for complaint in future.

Between the 9th and 13th of August I inspected in the trenches under arms Heth's division. General Heth had but recently occupied the line,

* Not found.

which he found in bad condition, having been badly policed, and full of individual bomb-proofs and covered ways that rendered it difficult to keep in good order. I first inspected Brigadier-General Davis' brigade, consisting of Twenty-sixth, Eleventh, Second, and Forty-second Mississippi, Fifty-fifth North Carolina, and Confederate Battalion. The brigade was commanded by Col. A. E. Reynolds, General Davis having left a day or two before on sick leave. I found the arms and accouterments in very bad condition in all the regiments except the Second, Col. J. M. Stone, and Eleventh, Maj. R. O. Reynolds. In the Second they were good; in the Eleventh very good, clean inside and bright outside; the accouterments attached to the guns, which were secured between pegs driven in the breast-works. The trenches were clean, and the general appearance was neat and military. At other parts of the line of the brigade, guns and bayonets were lying loosely about the trenches and under the shelter-tents of the men, peelings of fruit and rinds of melons were dropped promiscuously about the trenches, which, together with the accumulated dirt, indicated a neglect in the most necessary feature of cleanliness. The Twenty-sixth Mississippi, commanded by Capt. A. E. Earley, was in the most discreditable condition. Company I, Lieutenant Jackson, was the worst company of the regiment. I called the attention of the officers to the number of guns of sick men that had not been turned in to ordnance officers, as required by the orders. There was much in the appearance of the command to reflect upon the brigade inspector, Captain Cameron, whom I regretted to find absent, as I wished to call his attention to the irregularities which he allowed to go unreported. If he could not correct them it was his duty to have reported them, which he did not do.

Cooke's brigade I found in excellent order, as it always is. I inspected this brigade the day General Cooke took command of it at Fredericksburg. I then was compelled to make an adverse report. I have inspected it three times since, and each time have found it equal to any in the army in all respects. Whether in camp, in the trenches, or on the march, it is distinguished for its high discipline and good conduct. I consider the high state of perfection which it has reached attributable more to the energy and devotion of its commander than any other cause. Other brigades have as good material, but few brigades have so watchful and skillful a commander. The arms and accouterments were so generally good that there is no occasion for fault-finding with any. The inspection was creditable in all respects as if it had been made in winter quarters. Notes containing the strength of this brigade, the number of absent officers, and by what authority absent, and other points of information, were made by me in conjunction with Captain Grinnell, the acting division inspector. Captain G. was wounded a few days after the inspection was made and the notes misplaced. General Cooke declines to send in a report of his brigade on the ground that he is not allowed an inspector. For these reasons I cannot furnish the facts. I took a memorandum of the inspection.

Fry's brigade, commanded by Colonel Mayo, is composed of Archer's and Field's old brigades, with following regiments: First, Seventh, and Fourteenth Tennessee; Thirteenth Alabama; Second Maryland Battalion; Twenty-second, Fortieth, Forty-seventh, and Fifty-fifth Virginia Regiments. After the Pennsylvania campaign, Field's old brigade, commanded for some time by Colonel Brockenbrough, and what was left of Archer's after his capture at Gettysburg, were consolidated and placed under command of General H. H. Walker, who was wounded at Spotsylvania Court-House. Subsequently General Fry took com-

mand, but was himself wounded at ———. The day I inspected it, it was commanded by Colonel Mayo. It presented, as it had done at preceding inspections, but few evidences of discipline. In the Fourteenth and Seventh Tennessee guns and accouterments [in] fair condition. Thirteenth Alabama, Colonel Aiken, was in discreditable order; guns very rusty. Lieut. G. W. Callaway, Companies A and G, showed great neglect in the general appearance of his command. Lieutenant Lipscomb was specially neglectful of police. In the Virginia regiments the guns for the most part were in serviceable order. Fortieth Virginia, Capt. H. E. Coles, specially bad police. This brigade is now commanded by Brigadier-General Archer, who will doubtless improve the discipline and general condition of this command. The Tennesseeans have never been entirely satisfied since the consolidation. General Archer is almost idolized by them, and will, no doubt, harmonize the antagonisms that may have heretofore existed. Improvement is already apparent in this command since the date of my inspection, 13th of August (now 23d of September).

MacRae's brigade, formerly commanded by General Kirkland, consisting of Forty-seventh North Carolina, Maj. W. C. Lankford; Forty-fourth, Maj. C. M. Stedman; Twenty-sixth, Col. John R. Lane; Eleventh, Col. W. J. Martin; Fifty-second, Maj. E. Erson, I found in good order, in discipline, arms, accouterments, and clothing; police was fair. General MacRae had recently been assigned to its command from General Cooke's brigade, and was devoting himself with great energy to the comfort and efficiency of his command and the improvement and strengthening of his line. General MacRae is a strict disciplinarian, but has secured in an eminent degree the confidence of his men, as was shown in his successful charge at Reams' Station on 25th of August. Attention is called to the report of brigade inspector for strength of this brigade, the number of officers absent, and by what authority, &c. I have considered it unnecessary to attach a duplicate copy of these statistical facts to this report, as the brigade inspector accompanied me and noted these facts at my instance in his report which accompanies this.

Heth's division hospital, Doctor Hubbard in charge, was inspected by me about the 5th of September, in company with Doctor Breckinridge, medical inspector of the army, Doctor Powell, medical director of the corps, and Major Wingate, assistant inspector-general. We found the hospital well located in a very beautiful grove near Petersburg, with the ground sloping favorably for policing. With the exception of being too much crowded, the situation was a good one. The police was very bad. In fact, no attention seemed to be paid to cleaning up the grounds immediately in and about the hospital, nor was proper attention bestowed upon the sinks. The ground between the hospital and the sinks had been used for uncleanly purposes by the patients, making it offensive to the sight as well as the smell. In this important feature of cleanliness there was evident and inexcusable neglect in the management of this hospital. I found the sickness of this division was on the decrease and the diseases reported of a mild form. There was and had been a sufficient supply of medicines, except in Davis' brigade. Strength of division, 5,525; total number sick in hospital, 376; disabled, 32. The attention of Surgeon Guild, medical director, and General Heth, and General Lee, was called to the want of proper police in this hospital.

Transportation of this division I did not inspect, being disappointed two or three times by the weather and since by the presence of office

and other duties. The general appearance of the animals, as seen on the roads, at the depot, &c., is good. Their general condition on inspections heretofore has compared well with the best in the army. My daily observation in riding through the army confirms the report of Maj. R. H. Carter, chief inspector transportation, that the general condition of transportation of the army is good; considering all the circumstances of the campaign, very good.

RECAPITULATION.

Two brigades of Heth's division, Cooke's and MacRae's, it will be seen are in specially good order and commanded by two most excellent officers, who are strict disciplinarians, but who have great influence over their men in camp and on the field. Their spirits are specially good since the brilliant victory which they, under General Heth, achieved at Reams' on 25th of August. Archer's brigade, which heretofore has suffered from relaxation of discipline from causes referred to, will soon present a marked improvement under the commander of their choice. Davis' brigade, which has been less distinguished for discipline than any portion of the division, is giving evidence of improvement, as will be seen by second inspection report, made on the 5th of September, and to which attention is called in appendix to this report. This division has done hard and distinguished service during the campaign, and has sustained very heavy losses. General Heth is active and energetic in the discharge of his duties, and is devoting himself with zeal to the improved efficiency of his command.

Mahone's and Wilcox's divisions have not been inspected by me, except with the view of observing their general police, which I have found to be fair. Attention is respectfully called to the inspectors' reports of brigades in these divisions and my indorsements thereon.

Beauregard's command was inspected by me in company with one of his inspectors, Major Bryan. Colonel Roman, chief inspector, received a circular from the Adjutant and Inspector-General's Office, containing instructions, which he thought required him to send his reports direct to Richmond. He has not, therefore, transmitted them through me, although he has, since the army reached Petersburg, been reporting to and receiving orders from this office. Under this construction I do not consider it incumbent upon me to make an official report of my inspection of Hoke's and Johnson's divisions.

Artillery: Attention respectfully called to reports [of] Captain Dandridge, adjutant and inspector general, as to the wants, condition, &c., of artillery Third and First Corps. Captain D. reports large deficiencies in horses. Please see indorsement of Colonel Corley, quartermaster army, on the subject. It will be seen that Huger's and Haskell's battalions, situated between James and Appomattox, have suffered very much from sickness, principally ague and fever; clothing and equipments represented good. The artillery horses have been grazed and fed some miles in rear of the army. The horses of only one battery to each battalion are kept with the guns. There has been scarcity of grass, and rations have been reduced. In addition, the flies have been unprecedentedly annoying, rendering it impossible for horses to fatten. Owing to these reasons, as well as in some cases positive neglect, the artillery horses of the army are generally thin. No reports have been forwarded from artillery of Early's command.

Cavalry: No reports have come in from the cavalry, notwithstanding the circular of 3d of August, issued from this office, requiring them

to be made. Having waited until this date, 23d of September, without hearing from them, I have called upon the inspectors for an explanation of their silence. Since the reorganization of the cavalry into a corps, which has recently occurred, Major Venable, assistant adjutant and inspector general, has been assigned as chief inspector of the corps. Major V. was formerly in that position under General Stuart, and rendered efficient service. He is zealous and energetic in the discharge of his duties, and will no doubt give increased efficiency to the inspecting department of the cavalry. Having been unable to make any personal inspections of the cavalry, and receiving no reports for the month of August, I will defer for my next report the views suggested by the present condition and necessities of that arm of the service.

GENERAL REMARKS.

General orders and instructions from the department require me, as army inspector, to call attention to the irregularities and deficiencies existing in the army and the causes of the same. In compliance with these instructions, I cannot close this report without expressing the conviction, that has strengthened with my experience as inspector, that the source of almost every evil existing in the army is due to the difficulty of having orders properly and promptly executed. There is not that spirit of respect for and obedience to general orders which should pervade a military organization of such size and upon whose perfection of discipline such great issues of life and liberty depend. In my opinion, officers of all grades and departments are more or less to blame, but the brigade commander, more than any one else, is at fault and possesses in a greater degree the power to control and correct the evils resulting from this tendency to neglect of duty. Upon him rests the greatest responsibility, for the brigade is really the unit organization of the army, and reflects the character and qualifications of its commander. Indeed, the brigadier makes the brigade. If he does his duty, the evidences are at once apparent in the superior discipline and efficiency of his command. If he holds his colonels to a strict accountability, the colonels will look to their captains, the captains to their lieutenants, the commissioned to the non-commissioned officers, and thus then is that distinct division of responsibility defined and contemplated by the regulations. The proof of this view is in the fact that in the same division will be found one brigade with its complement of bayonets and its guns always bright, whilst another just by, with originally the same number, has no bayonets and its guns invariably in bad order; one will not allow the burning of rails or other depredations of property, whilst the adjoining brigadier of the same command says the evil cannot be stopped; one holds his colonels responsible for Government property, whilst the other says it is impossible to bring volunteers to such a high state of discipline. The illustration might be extended to show that an army with good brigadiers will have good discipline, and that without them the best troops deteriorate. The greatest evil that flows from this laxity in the execution of orders is straggling. It is the parent of almost every other irregularity that affects the army, and contributes more than all others to injure its good name. If the orders governing this subject were rigorously enforced by general officers, thousands of muskets would be heard in every fight that are now never fired, and the disgraceful depredations committed upon private property would be unknown. General Orders, No. 110, Army Head-

quarters, 1862, requires the inspection of arms and roll-call at the beginning and close of every march, and that all absentees be reported. A more important order was never issued, yet it is very generally neglected throughout the army. The order requiring general officers to ride frequently along their columns, personally inspecting the order of march, is also too generally neglected. They remain for the most part at the head of their troops, rarely seeing to the straggling of their men. Attention is called to circular issued from this office, of the 5th of September, requiring inspectors to report hereafter to this office the manner in which different marches have been conducted and the measures adopted by their respective generals to correct the irregularities reported. If the inspectors fail to make the report, they will be brought before a court-martial for trial for disobedience of orders. The necessity for reform in the marching of troops requires that stringent measures be adopted.

I have had the honor to report a number of officers to the general commanding for violating the orders requiring all property captured on battle-fields to be turned over to the chiefs of the respective departments. Horses captured from the enemy are in most cases appropriated by the officers of the command capturing them. The chief quartermaster of the army is responsible for the transportation of the army, and should, under instructions of the general commanding, have the sole distribution of Government animals. Attention is respectfully called to instructions to inspectors on this subject of the 28th of July. Orders regulating the settlement of damages done private property are frequently neglected. To insure a compliance hereafter and to ascertain the guilty party when there is neglect, inspectors are required (see circular September 5) to forward tri-monthly certificates with their reports, stating on whose property their commands have encamped the ten days preceding, the condition of the property when first occupied, and at the time of breaking up camp, and whether damages inflicted have been settled according to the provisions of General Orders, No. 26. The inspectors of the army have not contributed as much to the repression of the evils and irregularities referred to above as the orders defining their duties contemplated. The chief reason for this delinquency is that inspectors have been too generally considered and used by their generals as members of their personal staff. They have not been encouraged in the discharge of their legitimate and prescribed duties, but have been in many cases ordered to do the work of adjutants and aides-de-camp. The functions of the two offices are directly conflicting; indeed, their duties are in many important particulars incompatible. The duties of adjutant are at the desk and by the side, or bearing the orders of his general; those of inspector are supervisory in their nature, and keep him moving constantly along and through his command, seeing to the general execution, and reporting all violations of orders and regulations. He is thus taken from the presence of his commander, when as adjutant he is required at his side. To correct this evil I called the attention of inspectors, in circular from this office of the 6th of July, to the fact that they did not belong to the personal staff, but would be required to discharge the duties prescribed in orders from army headquarters of January, 1863. Notwithstanding these orders generals still use inspectors as adjutants-general. I would respectfully call the attention of the Department to the embarrassments resulting from this course. By this system inspectors are taken from the control of the chief inspector of the army and become subject to the orders alone of their generals. It practically relieves them from the functions as well

as the responsibilities of their position. It furnishes an excuse for the neglect of the duties for the faithful discharge of which they were commissioned, and offers every assurance of protection against its penalties. The tendency of such a policy is to impair the efficiency of the department and the usefulness of its officers. I would suggest that aides-de-camp be required to act in place of adjutants-general when the latter are absent from wounds or other causes. This could be done without injury to the service or interference with the officers of another department.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. E. PEYTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General.

APPENDIX.

Second Inspection Davis' Brigade.

On the 5th of September I made a special inspection of Davis' brigade. There was a marked improvement in all respects since my inspection three weeks previous. General Heth had ordered frequent inspections in the meantime and their beneficial effects were manifest in the generally improved condition of the command. The guns, accouterments, and trenches were equal to any on the line. The Twenty-sixth Mississippi Regiment, which was not only the worst in the brigade, but whose guns and accouterments were in discreditable condition before, now excelled any regiment in the brigade. There was nothing indeed in the appearance and condition of the brigade about which I could find fault. Having had to complain of so many things at my first inspection of the brigade, it gives me pleasure to be able to make a favorable report at this time, and to note the decided improvements that have taken place.

H. E. PEYTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 43. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND, *Richmond, September 23, 1864.*

By direction of General Braxton Bragg the hospitals and all officials thereto attached within the limits of the post of Richmond, and in its vicinity, are hereby transferred to the command of Brig. Gen. W. M. Gardner, commanding post, &c.

By order of Lieut. Gen. R. S. Ewell:

L. R. PAGE,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
September 23, 1864.

General BRAGG,
Commanding:

GENERAL: Will you allow me to call your attention to the subject of a conversation with you when I had the pleasure of seeing you in Richmond last in reference to some of my officers? I have recommended Brigadier-General Butler for promotion, and as General Lee tells me that he has concurred in this recommendation, I hope that action will be taken in this case as speedily as possible. The interests of the service require that this matter should be settled at once, and General Butler's conduct in command of his division on several recent

occasions proves him to be eminently qualified to command it. I should still urge his promotion even at the risk of losing the services of the other two brigadier-generals of the division, highly as I appreciate their services and anxious as I am to see these services rewarded also by promotion. I hope that in the reorganization of the cavalry both Rosser and Young may be able to obtain larger commands than they now hold. The other matter in which you were kind enough to promise your assistance was in connection with my former assistant adjutant-general, Maj. T. G. Barker, who has been with me since the war began and from whom I am very unwilling to part. I have asked for his promotion to a lieutenant-colonelcy, and as my staff officers have all the labors and duties pertaining to a corps it is not unreasonable to ask for them the rank belonging to staff officers of a corps. If Major Barker can be promoted and transferred to the line I shall cheerfully give him up, but if no position in the line can be found for him I trust that he may be promoted and assigned to duty with me. With him I would not have a larger staff than is allowed to corps commanders. Hoping that you may find it in your power to promote my wishes in these matters,

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., September 23, 1864.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have had lately representations from several sources, and among them a letter from the Governor of North Carolina, that many outrages are being committed in the district beyond the Chowan River by detached parties of soldiers, said mainly to be of the Fifteenth Virginia Cavalry, who are roaming about, levying contributions and committing depredations upon the people. They are in all probability bands of deserters or stragglers, who are enabled to practice these outrages with impunity by holding out the character of authorized bodies of Confederate soldiers. I am told the district might be visited without much danger by some regular cavalry or other force from your command, and by their instrumentality these disorderly and plundering bands be broken up and the deserters returned to their commands. You can best judge of the feasibility of such course, and I only write to invite your attention specially to it, and to suggest that such relief may be afforded as in your judgment may be done with safety and consistency to more important interests.

Very respectfully,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

[First indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 24, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Brigadier-General Baker for his information and action.

General Baker will take such steps as he may deem expedient for the correction of the evils complained of and will report the result to these headquarters.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HDQRS. SECOND DIST., DEPT. OF N. C. AND SOUTHERN VA.,
Goldsborough, September 28, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Colonel Gaillard, commanding at Weldon, who will please report if any troops are in this section under orders, and whether he can send any for the purpose specified in the above indorsement.

By order of Brigadier-General Baker:

J. C. McRAE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Weldon, N. C., September 30, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

There are no troops beyond the Blackwater that I am aware of; at all events, none that receive orders through this office. I would respectfully state that it is impossible for me to send any troops in that region. I applied for a company of cavalry a few days since for the purpose of sending them there, and would suggest that a company there would do more good and probably take more deserters than on the Roanoke.

P. C. GAILLARD,
Colonel, Commanding.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HDQRS. SECOND DIST., DEPT. OF N. C. AND SOUTHERN VA.,
Goldsborough, October 5, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

A company of cavalry has been sent to that section.

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

[Fifth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
October 22, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the Secretary of War.

For General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, September 24, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia, Petersburg:

GENERAL: I have received your letter, handed me by General Beauregard, this morning. As to labor, I have used every exertion for the past year to procure sufficient, but with very indifferent success; four precious months in the spring were lost by the whole of my small force of negroes being taken away. I succeeded at last in procuring orders for all free negroes to be enrolled. At present only 800 have been

received. Owing to desertions daily and sickness the force at work is short of 600. I have work for 2,000 and upward, and it is very pressing. The Conscript Bureau was ordered to enroll the free negroes, and if the number proved insufficient to impress the slaves. An order to those officers would, perhaps, stir them up. Our need is very great. Provision ought to be made to clothe and pay these negroes. The quartermaster and engineer departments are six months in arrears here. The first to the amount of $2,500,000, the latter to $500,000. I have been compelled to address the Secretary of the Treasury directly on the subject. This occasions great distress among the free negroes and their families, and is no doubt the cause of their continual desertions. With regard to the new lines proposed, the works about the city can only be taken in hand by a largely increased force of negroes. Those for the positions of supports at Sugar Loaf, near Fort Fisher, and Piney Point and Lockwood's Folly should be put up only by the troops in position at those points, and to construct them and have them unoccupied would be dangerous and troops should be there now. Every available man at present is employed in finishing the forts and strengthening them, and in putting up the additional guns which have arrived. The city garrison is on guard every night. In connection with the subject of your letter, I beg you will send to General Gilmer for a very good letter of General Hébert's on the defense. Taken with the map you will be fully possessed of the conditions and necessities of the defenses. The map left with you by General Beauregard was unfinished and taken by mistake. I beg you will return it when copied. The scale is 1–80000 and the cardinal points are shown by the parallels. I have called on the Governor for aid.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

P. S.—I beg leave to call your special attention to the fitting out and sending from this port two blockade runners as privateers. They had much better be employed in bringing in supplies for your army. If they could be made vessels of war, could cope at all with any of the enemy's cruisers, could aid in the least in the defense, could break up the blockade, or do anything save destroy some few of the enemy's vessels, all put together not worth one cargo from abroad for the support of the war; nothing should be spared to fit them out. But the fact is just the reverse. The expedition of the Tallahassee has greatly increased the danger to this place. It has doubled the number of the enemy off this coast and the efficiency of the blockade; it has made your reception of supplies very precarious; it has attracted the attention of the enemy here, flushed with their success at Mobile; it has caused the loss of the fine steamer Advance, the fastest and best of the trade, in consequence of the latter being obliged to transfer all her fine English coal to the Tallahassee, and take North Carolina coal instead, and brought the whole pressure of the Northern press to bear upon the speedy capture of this place. On the other hand, accomplished nothing but the burning of a few ships and smacks on the coast of New England. This ship and another are now being fitted out for another cruise. All the vessels in port, although under contract with the Government to bring in supplies, are to be compelled to give up their coal to such an extent as will endanger their safety very much. If the officers, guns, and men can be spared for an expedition of this kind, they can surely be applied better to the defense of this place, to

aid in picketing and guarding the river now so much exposed, and to man the batteries which are so much in need of men. I beg that you will have this matter considered. It is in every respect a grave one. I am satisfied not only that General Beauregard agrees with me, as do the officers of the navy here, and the entire community.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
October 5, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War, with the request that orders be given the enrolling officers to expedite as much as possible the enrolling of the negro force. The attention of the Department is invited to General Whiting's remarks as regards the use of the naval force in the defense of Wilmington.

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Second indorsement.]

OCTOBER 6, 1864.

Respectfully referred to the honorable Secretary of the Navy, inviting his attention to the postscript of General Whiting's letter.

J. A. SEDDON.

[Third indorsement.]

Respectfully returned to honorable Secretary of War.

General Whiting has evidently not considered the subject of the employment of the two vessels to which he refers. Had he looked at the structure of these vessels and the effect of the Tallahassee's cruise in its broad light, he would not have expressed the opinions he has. I am not aware that this vessel destroyed any smacks, either on the coast of New England or elsewhere.

S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, N. C., September 24, 1864.

His Excellency Governor VANCE,
Raleigh:

SIR: Can you do anything for Wilmington in the way of labor? I have most important work to do on Bald Head and at Caswell—work that is essential to the safety of this place. In the spring all negroes—the whole of the very small force sent here—were taken away and four months of precious time were lost. Of the free negroes ordered to be enrolled, I have been able to get but 800, and many of these have deserted and many are down in sickness. If you can do anything to aid in this matter, I beg you will do it quickly. There is another sort of help wanted; we must have troops here; all the labor and all the fortifications and all the engineering skill in the country will not be able to save this place without an adequate force. At no time since the

war began has the force to defend Wilmington been so small as it is now; at no time has it been in greater danger. You know the position of our two great armies, and what our chance is of receiving aid by detaching troops from them. Even if we could expect that, it might and probably would come too late, or at any rate after the enemy might have secured his foothold, perhaps even cut off the forts from the town. It is perfectly possible to do this. It can only be prevented by the presence of troops in force. If the enemy should be able to cut off the forts, no amount of gallantry or endurance on the part of the garrisons could save them, for they would eventually starve. It is no more practicable to protect a position like this, by its garrison alone, from a combined land and naval attack, than to protect Richmond or Petersburg by their fortifications without the presence of General Lee's army.

I am informed on good authority that there are 10,000 men in North Carolina between the military ages not in service. Will not many of them come forward at this time to aid in the defense of their own homes? While it is the duty of the Confederate Government to provide for the safety of all vital points, no one can help seeing that as events have gone lately, all its force will have to be concentrated in the two great armies. We must do our best here to help ourselves. If North Carolina can provide any aid, I beg that it may be done at once. It is time for all troops that are to be here to be gathering. One-half the number before the event will do what double may not be able to effect after the enemy makes his appearance. Let these 10,000 men come out for three months until the winter may release some of the veterans. Their very presence may avert attack. I have been laboring now for nearly two years to procure guns and put up forts. Neither guns nor forts will avail, nor engineering, without men.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

P. S.—Since writing the above, I have received a letter from General Lee, handed me by General Beauregard, who has just passed through south, in which he says the force of negroes must be increased. He says further that I "must rely for re-enforcements from the reserve forces of the State, and the increase to your rank and file from the conscripts." The case is before you now for such aid as you can render.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
Petersburg, Va., September 24, 1864.

Maj. G. C. BROWN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I send you the original application of General Archer to have Johnson's old brigade consolidated with his own. Please inclose this with the paper forwarded on the same subject the other day.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. FOOTE,
Assistant Adjutant-Generdl.

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* See Foote to Brown, September 20, p. 1263.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ARCHER'S AND WALKER'S BRIGADES,
August 27, 1864.

Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: I have the honor to request the transfer of the Tennessee brigade (late Bushrod Johnson's) to my brigade. The Tennesseeans of my command who are anxious for this transfer, and have asked me to apply for it, assure me that it is equally the desire of Bushrod Johnson's brigade. Johnson's brigade is on provost duty in Richmond.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. J. ARCHER,
Brigadier-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS HETH'S DIVISION,
August 27, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded and recommended to the favorable consideration of the general commanding. I suggest that Walker's old brigade be put on the duty Johnson's brigade now performs. Walker's brigade is much reduced, and being a Virginia brigade, stationary and near their homes, would fill up. It numbers now 600 men for duty.

Respectfully,

H. HETH,
Major-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD ARMY CORPS,
August 28, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, recommended.

It is certainly advisable to brigade together all the Tennessee troops in this army.

A. P. HILL,
Lieutenant-General.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 30, 1864.

Respectfully referred to General Beauregard for remarks.

By order of General Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR.

[Fourth indorsement.]

AUGUST 31, 1864.

Respectfully returned to army headquarters.

The Tennessee brigade, known as Johnson's, is now in the Department of Richmond, under Lieutenant-General Ewell.

For General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fifth indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 1, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

It was known that this brigade is at this time in the Department of Richmond. As it constitutes a part of Johnson's division and is only temporarily detached, the application for its transfer to another command, by exchange, was submitted for the views of General Beauregard. The exchange is deemed advisable.

By order of General Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Sixth indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 3, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Johnson.

By command of General Beauregard:

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Seventh indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S BRIGADE,
Signal Hill, Va., September 9, 1864.

Respectfully referred by direction of Major-General Johnson for the views of regimental commanders.

By order of Colonel Hughs, commanding brigade:

WALTER WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Eighth indorsement.]

HDQRS. 17TH AND 23D TENNESSEE REGIMENTS,
Signal Hill, September 9, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

From my long connection with what is known as General B. R. Johnson's old brigade, and from recent expressions of opinion on the part of the officers and men composing the brigade, I am justified in saying in their behalf, and on my own part, that we are not willing to enter into any arrangement that will in any way destroy our identity as a brigade. We are now in the Department of Richmond, under Lieutenant-General Ewell, but not in Richmond on provost duty, as stated by General Archer. In my opinion the consolidation of this brigade with any other brigade, and more especially with one in the Army of Northern Virginia, to which we do not properly belong, would be injurious to the service in several ways. Each regiment in this brigade has three times recruited its often thinned and decimated ranks to the maximum prescribed by law, and, though now much reduced by the many recent engagements which it has been in, it can again be recruited to the maximum number if allowed to return to Tennessee or remain where we are a sufficient time for our friends to learn our whereabouts.

H. READY,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

[Ninth indorsement.]

HDQRS. 44TH AND 25TH TENNESSEE REGIMENTS,
Signal Hill, September 11, 1864.

Respectfully disapproved.

This brigade has existed as an organization for over two years. We have earned an enviable reputation, both for discipline and good conduct on the field of battle. I have consulted with my officers and men, and they are unanimously opposed to any consolidation or transfer, even temporarily, and express a commendable desire to recruit their shattered ranks. This can be easily accomplished if time and opportunity is given. In my opinion this will be the first Tennessee brigade recruited after our occupation of Middle Tennessee if allowed to remain in its present organization. At present we are on outpost duty in front of Signal Hill and doing good service. When our prisoners—about 500 in number—are exchanged, and our convalescents, sick, and slightly wounded—in number about 450—return, we will have more than an average brigade. All we ask of the Department is to allow us to retain our identity for a time sufficient to demonstrate what energy can do toward recruiting a command, even with our State under the heel of our oppressors. I believe a transfer of this brigade would prove seriously injurious to the service, as already two of my men have deserted to the enemy since this question has been agitated. I doubt whether any single brigade of five regiments in the Confederate armies can show as many names on their muster-rolls since the commencement of the war, or boast a longer list of killed and wounded, or the names of more battle-fields on their colors, than B. R. Johnson's brigade. Certainly such a record should entitle these veterans to protest against any interference with their identity.

R. B. SNOWDEN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. 44th and 25th Tennessee Regiments.

[Tenth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SIXTY-THIRD TENNESSEE REGIMENT,
Signal Hill, September 13, 1864.

Respectfully disapproved.

Having ascertained the animus of the command respecting the change proposed, I am able to say that there is not an officer or private in the regiment who is not bitterly opposed to consolidation or any change by which the standing of the brigade would be injuriously affected, as it must be in this case if the application be successful.

A. A. BLAIR,
Captain, Commanding Sixty-third Tennessee Regiment.

[Eleventh indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S BRIGADE,
Signal Hill, September 13, 1864.

Respectfully returned disapproved.

Attention called to the indorsements of regimental commanders, from which it will be perceived that the transfer proposed by Brigadier-General Archer is by no means "the desire of this brigade," and this being the ground on which the application is based, we trust that the War Department will see fit to disapprove it and suffer us to retain our identity and remain where we are in the Department of Richmond,

so that in time we may recruit our remaining 350 "effective men" to a respectable brigade and prepare ourselves to enter anew the lists in the struggle for independence.

JOHN M. HUGHS,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade

[Twelfth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
September 23, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

The sentiments of the brigade are sufficiently indicated in the indorsements. My impression is that combination of the brigades proposed would not be beneficial to the service.

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
Petersburg, Va., September 24, 1864.

Col. G. W. BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I would respectfully recommend the following improvement in the line of defense now occupied by my command. The connection of the line of rifle-pits from pickets in front of Wise's brigade, extending from the river to the right, with abatis ten paces in front, the line of rifle-pits will thus be made continuous. They should be sloped to the rear, so as to be fired into from main parapet, if ever carried by the enemy, and the earth thrown up in front should be sloped to the natural surface like a glacis. My troops are ready to commence the work and continue it while they occupy the main line. The enemy are working constantly in front of this part of our lines, and are making strong fortifications. I would respectfully call attention to the fact that the mining on the City Point railroad is not being conducted with proper energy. The detail is but small, and does not work regularly. The relative position of our lines and those of the enemy is peculiar at this point, and seems to call for special attention and skillful means of defense. The mortar fire on our line between the river and the City Point railroad is sometimes quite heavy, and there appears to be no arrangements for response by our mortars. Mortar batteries on the north side of the Appomattox would secure more safety to our men and perhaps often silence the enemy's fire. It appears that the enemy are strengthening their second line by a wide and deep ditch; it is also reported by deserters that they are building strong batteries in which they propose to mount heavy columbiads. This suggests the necessity of similar works on our line. At least a ditch of such strength as to be a real obstacle might be put in front of our second line, or even our front line. In front of our 8-inch columbiad near the Norfolk railroad the enemy have three times battered down our infantry breast-works. It seems necessary to make this parapet some twenty feet thick, which can be done by running a ditch in front. In case it is thought proper to complete the second line to the river it will be necessary that the troops in reserve should do the work.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

PETERSBURG, VA., *September 25, 1864.*

Lieut. Gen. R. S. EWELL,
Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: To your communication of the 22d instant, inclosing report of an inspection of my old brigade, I desire to make a brief unofficial response. The suggestion you have made in regard to Governor Harris is much better for the brigade and for the service than anything that I have anticipated. I only apprehend that he will not accept, or that if he should do so it will be with the condition that he shall be permitted to mount his command. In the recommendation which I made my object was to do the best I could with the material at hand. On the 24th instant I addressed a communication to Maj. G. C. Brown, of your staff, requesting that my letter recommending Lieutenant-Colonel Snowden for brigade commander should be regarded as official and be forwarded to the Adjutant and Inspector General. I shall be entirely satisfied if you decide not to forward that communication. Col. A. S. Marks, formerly of the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment, and now a member of the general court-martial for Forrest's command, would be received by the brigade most favorably, if Governor Harris declines. Colonel Marks is one of the best, if not the very best, regimental commander I have ever known in the Confederate service. I should have recommended him for brigade commander had I thought that in the present reduced strength of the brigade the command would have been desirable to him. It is also proper to state that he has lost his right leg below the knee in consequence of a wound received at Murfreesborough. When the brigade was in good condition, and up to perhaps May last, Colonel Marks was desirous of being appointed to the command. He may indeed have the same desire yet. I am ready to recommend him before anyone else, as a military man, possibly available.

Colonel Snowden informed me that it is decided that my brigade is a part of my division. If this is so it is no doubt desirable that I should give it more particular attention than I have lately done. On this point I should be pleased to have your suggestions and a proper understanding. Hitherto my actions have been mainly confined to such matters as my former connection with the brigade enabled me to judge with perhaps superior means of information. Of Colonel Hughs I have clearly expressed my opinion, founded on long familiarity with his qualifications for office and for command. I think he should be relieved of the command of the brigade, for which he is entirely disqualified, and that he should be brought to trial. When brought before a board in Tennessee to relieve the army of disabled, disqualified, and incompetent officers Colonel Hughs was pronounced incompetent for the command of his regiment, but was retained simply because that regiment could furnish no competent officer, and it was believed that Colonel Hughs could better keep the men together than a new appointment. He has, however, failed to keep his men from deserting, and I believe that there are not now twenty effective men of his regiment present for duty. While I should regret to see the officers and men of the brigade disappointed in regard to their wishes for the preservation of a distinct organization, the report of your inspector presents matters very unfavorable thereto, I confess. If Governor Harris could be placed in command both of Archer's and my brigade it would perhaps

give satisfaction to these commands, and in the end gain increased strength for them. With kind regards, and the hope that we may be able to renew personally our former acquaintance,

I remain, yours, truly,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

P. S.—I incline to the opinion that it will be well to completely reorganize our army; consolidate regiments, so that every regiment from each State shall be at least 1,000 in effective strength, and return all supernumerary officers to the ranks.

B. R. J.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, N. C., September 25, 1864.

To His Excellency Governor VANCE,
Raleigh:

SIR: I send for your information, the following extract from General Lee's letter to me of the 22d instant on the defense of this place:

> I may as well now state that you must rely for re-enforcements from the reserve force of the State, and the increase of your rank and file from the conscripts. I should be very glad to send you five veteran brigades as you desire, but it is impossible to keep an army at every point threatened sufficient to insure its safety.

The whole system of defense for Wilmington and its harbor is predicated on the presence of a strong movable force, indeed no other system could be provided. During the whole of the war heretofore, that is until the present campaign, it has been considered necessary to keep from one to five brigades here. When Foster's expedition threatened this point 8,000 of the best troops in the army were sent here at once. At present, as you are no doubt aware, there is no such force here, except some 300 lads of the Junior Reserves. You can then readily see why I call upon the State to send forward all her available force. I understand that you express a want of confidence in me as commanding general. To that I have only to say that so Wilmington is saved I am perfectly willing to aid as far as I am able any of my seniors who may be designated as more capable than myself or more acceptable. Secondly, no matter who is here, were it Napoleon or General Lee, they would have to have troops to be able to save the place; and thirdly, the responsibility is now on the people of North Carolina, and unless they meet it, it will not do to throw it upon the general or the Government after the event, should it be disastrous. I have been and am doing everything our means will allow to strengthen and prepare. The more labor and the more time I have the better. I ask for all the men you can send me, and all the labor; that is to say, for the latter to increase my present small force of negroes to at least 2,000. The troops should be gathered, in order to have them ready, armed, and organized, and on the spot when the enemy appears.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

P. S.—I respectfully request that you will show this to Lieutenant-General Holmes. I have marked it confidential, as containing special information.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 26, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond:

SIR: I have the honor to call your attention to the remarks of Major-General Pickett, contained in the inclosed letter, with reference to the co-operation of the navy with the land forces on James River. I respectfully recommend that the Navy Department be requested to give such directions to the officers commanding the fleet as will enable them, by agreement with General Pickett, to arrange for immediate and full co-operation between them should it become necessary. The navy can readily prevent the enemy from crossing the river at the point indicated by General Pickett if an understanding be come to by which they shall move promptly to the spot upon being notified of the existence of danger.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[First indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 28, 1864.

Respectfully referred to the honorable Secretary of the Navy, inviting his attention to General Lee's letter and inclosure, and requesting that orders may be given to secure full concert and co-operation with General Pickett.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary.

[Second indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 28, 1864.

Referred to Flag-Officer John K. Mitchell for attention.

S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary.

[Third indorsement.]

FLAG-SHIP VIRGINIA,
Boulware's Landing, September 30, 1864.

Received yesterday and respectfully returned to the Secretary of the Navy with the letter accompanying it from General Pickett.

The iron-clads and several of the gun-boats have been in position at Bishop's since the 15th instant until yesterday (except for a few brief hours to avoid the notice of the exchanged prisoners when coming down the river) in pursuance of the orders of the Department for the very purpose proposed in General Pickett's letter, viz, to move down to oppose any movement of the enemy through Dutch Gap and to act against him anywhere and at any time when it can be done with effect. The squadron was yesterday and is now stationed from this point up to the pontoon bridge above Chaffin's Bluff to operate on the enemy; its fire yesterday on the enemy at and near Fort Harrison is represented to me by General Anderson as being "very effective." Last night dispositions were made with an iron-clad and a gun-boat below Bishop's to protect General Pickett's left. I have offered repeatedly to the commanding generals on both sides of the James River to co-operate with

them, and shall always be happy to answer any calls for this purpose and feel thankful for any information which will enable the squadron to move promptly where its services can be useful.

JNO. K. MITCHELL,
Flag-Officer, Commanding James River Squadron.

[Fourth indorsement.]

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
October 1, 1864.

Respectfully returned to honorable Secretary of War, whose attention is called to the above indorsement of Flag-Officer Mitchell.

S. R. M[ALLORY],
Secretary of Navy.

[Fifth indorsement.]

OCTOBER 1, 1864.

Noted with pleasure.

J. A. S[EDDON],
Secretary.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Chesterfield, September 25, 1864.

Col. WALTER H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that Colonel Poague fired ninety-four times on Friday, and only forty shots yesterday. He says that the flag-of-truce boat came down to Cox's Wharf and remained many hours; that it would have to cross the line of enemy's fire, and he did not wish to draw the fire on the boat loaded with our returned prisoners. In the meantime, Yankee like, the enemy vigorously push forward their work at the Gap. I have already reported this truce. I now again respectfully call the attention of the commanding general to the facts. Something should be done, some understanding come to. Either another point of exchange should be agreed upon or they should be compelled to desist working while the flag is pending. As the flag visits so frequently and remains so long, it interferes materially with our mortar practice. The firing of Colonel Mayo's sharpshooters has succeeded in keeping the enemy from the bank of the river. A feeble attempt was made to reply with musketry, which soon ceased, and the enemy then shelled the pickets with mortars, of course without effect. The firing of the mortars, Poague's and Huger's 8-inch, has kept the working parties of the enemy very busy dodging, and their dredging machine has come to a stand-still. If they wish to complete the canal they will be compelled to occupy this bank of the river. Any attempt to do this ought to be prevented by the gun-boats. They certainly can and ought to do so, and I should like much if the commanding general would have it so understood, that when the pickets report any endeavor to or appearance of crossing a body of troops in barges, or of laying down a pontoon, that the fleet immediately move down to prevent it. Mayo's regiment is small, but with the defenses which we will soon have, it, with Poague's artillery, will (with the assistance asked for from the fleet) be enabled to hold in check any advance of the enemy till we can be re-enforced. I regret to report four deserters from the

Fifteenth Virginia, Corse's brigade, last night. General C. speaks of them as among the most reliable in the regiment. Also, two from Hunton's brigade. I send his own report in the premises, to show that every effort is being made to prevent this practice. Deserter from the enemy last night (Orders, No. 65), Canadian, says he was kidnapped with a half dozen others, drugged, and forced into service. This is evidently the way in which the "quota" is made up. The enemy are certainly put to great straits to get men, and by turning in our detailed men and employing negroes we will more than equal them in nerve, if not in numbers.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 26, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond:

SIR: I have the honor to inclose* a report of Major-General Pickett of operations on his line, from which you will see that the presence of the flag-of-truce boat at Cox's Wharf interferes with the fire of our batteries, and that the enemy takes advantage of it to push on his work on the canal. I do not know whether it will be practicable to have the returned prisoners delivered at any other point, but respectfully ask that some understanding be had between the commissioners on the subject. It must be agreed either that the presence of the flag-of-truce boat must suspend working as well as firing on both sides, or it must be understood that either party shall be at liberty to fire. It is manifest that we cannot agree to a state of affairs that inures entirely to the benefit of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, September 26, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Commanding Confederate Armies:

GENERAL: I cannot impress upon you too strongly the imperious necessity of getting all our men subject to military duty to the field. We should have them with the armies now. The duties of the Enrolling Bureau are the most important in the service, and every facility should be given to it to increase our forces. I think the officers should be entirely relieved from the consideration of exempting, detailing, or recommending for light service. Let their sole object and purpose be to put men into the field and fill up our depleted regiments. Let others undertake their relief and exemption. The enemy are increasing their forces in Virginia, and I presume in other States. I get no additions. The men coming in do not supply the vacancies caused by sickness, desertions, and other casualties. If things thus continue the most

* See next, *ante*.

serious consequences must result. We shall have no use for the men detailed in other branches of the service, for agriculture, &c., if we are driven from the field. To show the steady increase to General Grant's army, I inclose reports from scouts between the 13th and 23d instant. I do not think the transports carry on an average as large a number of troops as the observers state—between 250 and 300 in my opinion is nearer the truth. According to this diminished estimate you will perceive that within the times specified about 10,000 men over those he has sent away have been added to General Grant here If I had negroes to replace the teamsters, cooks, and hospital attendants I could increase each division many hundred men. Unless they are sent to me rapidly it may be too late. General Whiting is also in need of negroes. Will you have orders given in his case also?

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 228. ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, September 26, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

IV. The workmen at arsenals and ordnance depots under charge of the Ordnance Bureau will not be called from their work for military purposes without the consent of the commanding officer of such arsenal or depot, except on orders from the War Department or from the general commanding the department in which the arsenal or depot is situated. When so called out the commanding officer of the arsenal or depot may retain at their work a number not to exceed one-third of his whole force of mechanics or skilled workmen, on certificate that they are necessary to execution of work in hand. In all cases it is enjoined on commanding generals to return workmen so withdrawn at the earliest moment, the continued operation of these establishments being of great importance at all times.

* * * * * * *

XXVIII. Col. B. S. Ewell, assistant adjutant-general, is assigned to duty in the Department of Richmond, and will report for orders to Lieut. Gen. R. S. Ewell, commanding, &c.

XXIX. First Lieut. W. R. Beale, Provisional Army, C. S., will report to Brig. Gen. John Echols, commanding, &c., for assignment to duty.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, September 26, 1864.

His Excellency Governor VANCE,
Raleigh, N. C.:

GOVERNOR: My great solicitude for the preservation of this place induces me to call your attention to a matter which I deem of much importance in its defense. The Confederate steamers Tallahassee and Chickamauga are now nearly ready for sea, and will leave this port for the purpose of operating against the enemy's commerce. Should they leave on this service, the few vessels they might destroy would be of little advantage to our cause, while it would excite the enemy to

increase the number of the blockading squadron to such an extent as to render it almost impossible for vessels running the blockade to escape them. I am fully persuaded that the public interest would be better served by retaining the Tallahassee and Chickamauga for the defense of this place. They would be of vast importance in transporting troops and supplies to the different points which might be attacked, and thus might save Wilmington, which it is so necessary for us to hold. Should you concur in these views, I beg Your Excellency will write at once to the Government at Richmond and ask that the vessels in question may be retained here for objects indicated, which I cannot but believe are of paramount importance, and which doubtless a request from Your Excellency will accomplish.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, September 26, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, &c., Petersburg:

GENERAL: As I shall probably have nothing better than the State reserves to rely upon, will it not be possible at least to let me have two companies of cavalry and two batteries of artillery? I always had for this command until the spring six companies. Four have been taken away, as also two of my best batteries; in fact, the only two which had been under fire, and sent to Petersburg. If North Carolina furnishes me men it will be as much as we can expect. With such a large coast line a small force of cavalry will be indispensable, and I hope I can get it. The artillery is needed also. One of my batteries here consists of 6-pounders only I telegraphed you yesterday, asking your influence to stop that expedition from leaving this port on a privateering trip. I can hardly express myself too strongly against this measure. I am satisfied that the officers of the navy concur with me. At the very moment when the Raleigh iron-clad has been destroyed and the North Carolina, the only remaining one, is sunk and useless, when the place is threatened, the enemy's fleet doubled, an expedition is sent off, taking valuable officers, men, guns, and ships, all needed for the defenses. The navy ought to help us here, and I am sure they are anxious to do it. I hope these vessels will be assigned to aid. Their services in guarding the river and remaining batteries will be priceless to me in my present condition. I think Flag-Officer Pinckney agrees with me, and if it will be proper on his part I am in hopes he will apply for this force. General Beauregard, I know, concurs entirely in the views I have expressed, and it is the sentiment of the whole community without exception.

With regard to your question about probable changes in the force at New Berne, I have heard of small movements of troops there, probably the exchange you speak of. It is reported to-day that the yellow fever is prevailing there, and that there is talk of removing the garrison, probably to the sea-coast. I shall no doubt hear definitely to-morrow.

I have one more point: Will you direct a supply of arms to be sent here with ammunition for such force as I may be able to gather? Many that will come from the State will be unarmed.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
October 5, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the honorable Secretary of War.

I think two companies of cavalry or a small battery might be sent from South Carolina in the event of an attack on Wilmington. There are seven batteries of artillery now there, I should think sufficient. I will endeavor to replace the 6-pounders with better pieces. If the naval boats and officers required for the defense of Wilmington can be efficiently used for that purpose I think they had better be so applied. The loss of Wilmington to us would weigh more than the destruction of the enemy's coasters. I have sent 7,500 arms to Governor Vance to arm the reserves. Should more be required, I will endeavor to send them.

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Second indorsement.]

OCTOBER 6, 1864.

Respectfully referred for the consideration of the honorable Secretary of the Navy, inviting his attention to General Lee's indorsement.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary.

[Third indorsement.]

OCTOBER 8, 1864.

Respectfully returned to honorable Secretary of War.

I do not concur in the views of General Whiting, and have written to him upon this subject. If such shells as the Tallapoosa and Edith are wanted by him, he can at any time find any number he may wish in Wilmington. I concur with General Lee's views, and think the vessels should go to sea, and regret that they have been so long detained in port.

S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, N. C., September 26, 1864.

Lieutenant-General HOLMES, *Raleigh:*

MY DEAR GENERAL: I duly got your note. The information it contained was not very pleasant but I take it very kindly. Those people, from the Governor down, who express "a want of confidence in me" are probably people who have kept out of the war, and while I am doing my duty to the utmost to defend this place I care very little for abuse. I should like to know who the "high official" was who gave the Governor his information. I have never reached any such unfortunate condition as that and never will. Just advise the Governor to do all he can to send troops and labor here, and when he does that and does his duty it will be quite time to take the Government to task for sending me here, and me for failure. The responsibility is on him and the people of North Carolina, the 10,000 men between the military ages. General Lee has informed me officially that all my reliance must be on the reserve forces of the State—a good prospect. The thing is so, neither General Lee nor General Anybody can hold this place with the present force if attacked with any vigor. I desire its safety so much and so sincerely that I am willing at any time to serve under any more able or

capable of my seniors who may be more acceptable to the people of Raleigh, &c., and to aid any such with my entire efforts, or to waive in favor of any junior who may be wished for. It's an ungrateful duty this, and no bed of roses, and the prospect not particularly cheerful ahead. But whether we fail or not it will not do for North Carolinians to howl at either the Government or the general unless they come forward manfully with their muskets. Ask the Governor to show you my letter to him. This is private to you. McRae wrote me a friendly letter; ask him to put his pen to work to push forward men and negroes as much as he can without compromising the place by too great publicity of our weakness.

Yours, truly,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, *September 27, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: The subject of your letter of yesterday's date has occupied the attention of the War Department recently and some important action has been had which will be seen in the recent general orders. The changes which have been made in the Enrolling Department will, it is hoped, improve that service and at the same time give to the armies in the field some able-bodied men heretofore employed in that duty. I do not, however, regard the administration of that branch of the service sufficiently vigorous and energetic, and fear we shall not realize any great result. Your suggestion for an increase of negro force both in your army and with General Whiting has been submitted to the War Department. A compliance with your request was urged and promised. It has been suggested that possibly some force could be raised by offering inducements to the enemy's prisoners in our hands. Many of them, especially in the foreign element, are reported as greatly dissatisfied at the course of their Government and some voluntary offers have been made to enlist in our service. From those whose terms of service have expired it is possible we may obtain recruits who will at least do us no harm and may add to our strength. The experiment will be tried.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG.

P. S.—We are at a loss for a proper general officer from Alabama (disabled) to command reserves and conduct enrolling service. Can you suggest one?

B. B.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 229. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, September 27, 1864.*

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VII. During the temporary absence of Brig. Gen. G. W. C. Lee, Brig. Gen. W. M. Gardner will assume command of the brigade of Local Defense Troops.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, N. C., September 27, 1864.

Hon. S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy, Richmond:

SIR: In the present condition of this post, our last remaining seaport, I respectfully request that you will direct Captain Wilkinson's command, for the present at least, to report for the defense of the place to the flag-officer. I have less force to secure Wilmington now than at any time during the war, and every available man and gun is needed more than ever. The two iron-clads, the Raleigh and North Carolina, on which we relied to defend the rips, or inner bars, are both gone. We have here no naval forces afloat, and one is greatly needed. The officers, men, guns, and ships of the expedition would be of the very greatest assistance in every way in event of attack, now regarded as imminent. I have been notified that I must depend on this State for aid. The departure of this force, at this time, will be a serious loss to us. For the present, at least, I beg you will aid me in this. The enemy's fleet is very largely increased. The difficulty of running the blockade has been lately very great. Far more than the average of ships have been lost, and the receipt of our supplies is very precarious. Unless I receive strong accessions of force, and that very soon, I cannot answer for keeping the port even for the return of these ships. With regard to the propriety of their remaining to increase the means of defense here, I am satisfied that Generals Lee and Beauregard, and the chief officers of the navy, agree with me. I beg leave to refer you to the War Department for a statement of the condition of this place, and the necessity of procuring every available man for its security. You know its vital importance to our credit abroad and to our ability to continue the war. The extreme urgency of the case has induced me to take the liberty of addressing you on this subject, for which I trust you will pardon me. I requested an application from the flag-officer; but, though he concurred with me in the matter, he informed me that he could not properly make it. I hope you will excuse me, therefore, as writing in the interest of the defense for both arms of the service. I am building batteries and quarters for the small naval force here, to be, of course, an exclusive naval command, and the addition of these vessels will be of the greatest help. On the other hand, should they successfully evade the fleet and get out, it may precipitate attack before either our reenforcements can be gathered or my preparations completed. I beg that before giving your final orders on the subject, you will obtain from the War Department a report of our exact condition and resources.

I am, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., September 28, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 26th instant, inclosing a report of General Pickett, and desiring the co-operation of the Navy to be secured in the operations on the river below the city. I have seen the honorable Secretary of the Navy, and he

professes a desire to render all the assistance that it may be in the power of the Navy to give. He will give such instructions as are deemed necessary for concert and cordial co-operation. He wishes General Pickett advised to make known freely to the commander of the fleet what places he wishes taken to promote his operations, and does not think there will be the least hesitancy on the part of the naval commander in meeting his views.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., September 28, 1864

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 26th instant relative to the abuse by the enemy of the opportunities afforded by the flag-of-truce boat. On conference with Mr. Ould, the agent of exchange, I am informed it would be very inconvenient to change the place of meeting, and, if arranged at a lower point on the river, it will be almost impracticable to transport the prisoners to the place of exchange and bring up our own. He is, however, perfectly confident that neither the presence of the boat at the point now used, nor its passage to and fro, need interrupt at all the firing from any of our batteries. He says the boat is entirely out of range when at the place, and in passing incurs not the least risk unless designedly aimed at. He vouches this on his own observation and experience, and as he is always upon the boat he must feel very secure of his accuracy and his exemption from danger which he and those with him enjoy. I think, therefore, your officers may be instructed to fire without interruption or hesitancy on account of the passage of the boat.

Very respectfully,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 28, 1864.

Lieut. Gen R. H. ANDERSON,
Commanding Longstreet's Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to say that he desires you to move to the north side of James River and take command of the troops and line of defense about Chaffin's Bluff, New Market, &c. He wishes the construction of the line of works under the supervision of Col. W. Proctor Smith, engineers, &c., pushed forward as vigorously as possible, and everything done to make the entire defensive line secure against any attack of the enemy. You are requested to establish your headquarters at such point as may be most convenient to the lines, and to report your location to the general commanding, and also to Major-Generals Field and Pickett. These division commanders have been instructed to communicate through you in all matters of routine and internal administration, and, being nearer the general commanding, to report to army headquarters direct in matters appertaining to military

operations. A copy of this letter has been furnished Lieutenant-General Ewell, commanding the Department of Richmond, in whose department you will be operating.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, *September 28, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING,
Wilmington, N. C.:

GENERAL: I judge from the tenor of your private letter received yesterday that you infer that I did you injustice in expressing a want of confidence in your command of Wilmington, &c. I desire to say for myself fully and frankly all that I have felt or expressed on that subject. You are universally (so far as I have learned) regarded as an officer of a high order of talent in your profession. In the fall of 1862 I solicited the President to send you to Wilmington, and my own judgment (freely admitted to be worth little) of the works erected for the defense of the place but concurs with that of better judges that they are well and judiciously built. Only one thing has ever occurred to impair the universal confidence which you inspired by your diligence in fortifying the town, and that was a very general impression that you drank too much; that your nervous system had been injured by it. I was also informed by an officer high in command and your friend, that at Petersburg you were suffering from depression, caused by abstinence from drink. But not until Colonel McRae and others here, who could have no personal or political prejudice against you, had made this feeling public, did I deem it my duty to say a word. Then I wrote to General Lee, reciting these things, and asking, not for your removal, but that in case of actual attack on the city General Beauregard might be sent down to help you. This is all that I have said, done, or felt in the matter. I don't think I have done you any injustice, and I know I have no unfriendly feeling, though, to confess the truth, general, you have tried me sorely on more than one occasion. Citizens have been shot down wantonly in the streets by your patrols; my trains have been frequently seized; my boats seized, and salt-works stopped; the pilot of the Advance seized and taken off, and a drunken wretch sent in his place, contributing in no small degree to the loss of the vessel; besides numerous instances of an entire usurpation of the civil authority in the town of Wilmington and surrounding country. You have no idea of the complaints made to me on this head alone, with which I have declined to interfere. I believed you to be the man for the defense of Wilmington, and have endeavored earnestly to get along harmoniously with that great end in view. I have even swallowed in silence some very rough and discourteous remarks of a personal character, more than once reported as having fallen from you, conscious of my own infirmity in this respect in moments of irritation. But I can assure you in all truth and sincerity that none of these things moved me to express a want of confidence in you, but the cause first mentioned, and I am happy to say that I learn that the objection referred to has been in a great measure removed. God knows I have no other, so far as your capacity to command the defenses of Wilmington is concerned.

Very respectfully, yours,

Z. B. VANCE.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, September 28, 1864.

General WHITING,
Wilmington:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 24th instant, in relation to the defense of Wilmington, has been received, and has my earnest consideration. I regret to learn that the defense of Wilmington depends alone upon the militia forces of the State. If this be so, the place might as well be surrendered on the first summons of the enemy. The entire force I could send you for three months would not exceed 5,000 men, raw and untrained. It was my intention to send every one promptly when the time comes, and the reason why I cannot send them and have not sent them heretofore in order that you might drill and, to some extent, discipline them, is twofold: First, nearly all of the militia subject to my control are farmers; they are now saving forage, making molasses, and sowing wheat. I have had them out for thirty days drilling, organizing, and arresting deserters, about 1,000 of whom have been returned to duty. With these men kept out all the time and not permitted to sow wheat, the loss to both people and army would be incalculable. This is a part of the programme military commanders are apt to forget. Now, if I were to send you the negroes and the home guard, having already the Junior and Senior Reserves, what labor would be left to do anything at all? I admit that almost anything is preferable to the capture of Wilmington, but, destitute as the country is of labor, I had earnestly hoped that the militia would be spared until the last moment. Secondly, I respectfully submit that I am entitled to judge of the necessity which calls these men to the field. It has been the habit of Confederate commanders in North Carolina to conduct all matters connected with our defense without reference to me whatever, with the exception of General G. W. Smith, and calls are constantly made upon me for the militia without putting me in possession of any facts other than the opinion of the officers upon what the necessity of the call is predicated. In the spring General Ransom telegraphed me from Weldon to call out the militia, and to my inquiry what for, he made no reply. General Baker wrote me from Goldsborough to the same effect some weeks ago, and even now I have not been informed of one single circumstance showing why Wilmington is about to be attacked. Your opinion is, of course, to be respected, but I should be much better satisfied to make these people lose their crops if my own judgment had an opportunity of concurring with yours as to its immediate necessity. I now say to you, general, that if convinced of its being absolutely necessary to the safety of Wilmington I will make any sacrifice that may be required, even to the risk of starvation. I will send you every man I can control in the State, except from a few counties on the western border; will appeal to every other able-bodied man to go, and will go myself. You have already the power, under act of Congress, to impress slave labor, and for various reasons I prefer you should do it, unless I have the power of returning them when I thought proper.

I am, general, very respectfully, yours,

Z. B. VANCE.

RALEIGH, *September 28, 1864.*

General W. H. C. WHITING:

MY DEAR GENERAL: When I told the Governor I should write to you the purport of my conversation with him about you, he desired me not

to mention the name of the officer, but assented when I told him I would substitute the "highest authority." I did this rather than not write at all, supposing that under the circumstances you would have no difficulty in understanding who was meant. Thank God, the thing has been met, and I do not doubt greatly to your advantage, for your letters to the Governor and McRae were written in a spirit of such pure, disinterested patriotism that they have had good effect. I am directed to form the reserve into brigades. I will be obliged if you will recommend to me by telegraph some good man to be appointed to command the regiment of Junior Reserves, to be made of the three battalions near Wilmington. There will be a brigade of the Juniors, all of which will be available for you.

I am, general, yours,

T. H. HOLMES.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 231. } *Richmond, Va., September 29, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

II. The Local Defense Troops under the command of Brig. Gen. W. M. Gardner, Provisional Army, C. S., will immediately report to Lieut. Gen. R. S. Ewell, commanding, &c. Such of the brigade as may be essential to the manufacture and continuance of current supplies to the army will remain on duty as heretofore.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Chaffin's Bluff, September 29, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary:

General Gregg reports that he repulsed the several attacks of the enemy made against the intermediate line of defenses, capturing many prisoners. The enemy still hold Battery Harrison on the exterior line. Our loss is very small.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 29, 1864.

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:

General Lee has moved to Chaffin's Bluff, where he can be communicated with. Please inform the honorable Secretary of War and General Bragg.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 29, 1864.

Admiral MITCHELL, or
COMMANDING OFFICER JAMES RIVER SQUADRON:

I request that the bridge at Chaffin's may be protected and defended by your boats.

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 29, 1864.

Maj. E. H. JANNEY,
Quartermaster, Dunlop's Station:

Lieutenant-General Hill is at General Lee's headquarters, and desires you to notify him by telegraph whenever trains are ready, and no troops at Dunlop's to use them.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 58. } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 29, 1864.

For the information of the army, it is announced that the fourth clause of paragraph II, General Orders, No. 7, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, only applies to that class to which the whole order appertains—that is, no volunteer of the class liable to military duty will be received into any company, except on the certificate of an enrolling officer that he has volunteered to serve in that company, and in accordance with the existing orders of the War Department; but those who are not liable to military duty, under the act of Congress "to organize forces to serve during the war," approved 17th of February, 1864, may be accepted as volunteers in any company whose numbers do not reach the maximum allowed by law.

By command of General Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
September 29, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Richmond:

General Ewell reports the enemy have possession of Fort Harrison. Order out the locals and all the other troops to his assistance.

R. E. LEE.

PETERSBURG, *September 29, 1864.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Richmond:

Can General Gardner take command of the locals? If he cannot go into the field whom can you place over them?

R. E. LEE.

General EWELL,
Chaffin's Bluff:

Have telegraphed General Bragg to order out locals. Endeavor to retake Fort Harrison.

R. E. LEE.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF, *September 29, 1864—6 a. m.*

General BRAGG:

Affairs look serious. Pickets driven in. While Gardner is away would it not be best to place Kemper in command of locals or else Pemberton? All disposable troops should be on the lines. The enemy have possession of Fort Harrison.

R. S. EWELL,
Lieutenant-General.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF, *September 29, 1864.*
(Received 9.50 a. m.)

General BRAGG:

Enemy approaching Richmond by the New Market road in large force. Gary is holding Chaffin's interior line—the locals must hold interior line.

R. S. EWELL.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF, *September 29, 1864.*

General BRAGG:

I have already reported that the local troops will be required to meet enemy's advance on New Market road. Gary reports advance of a division. Gary has been sent to meet them. I will extend to my left, but enemy are still in my front.

R. S. EWELL.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF, *September 29, 1864.*

General BRAGG:

If some troops could be sent down the Osborne road, I may hold the enemy in check till General Lee sends me re-enforcements. Enemy hold much of the intrenchments around Fort Harrison, and I have great difficulty in keeping my men together, who are scattering much, being new troops.

R. S. EWELL,
Lieutenant-General.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF, *September 29, 1864—2.30 p. m.*

General BRAGG:

One brigade of Field's division has arrived, and is directed to a point in repelling attack near Fort Gilmer. One regiment has arrived from Pickett and is placed to protect Chaffin's. I have directed Gary to cover Darbytown road. Some local troops should move in that direction as the enemy are extending toward the Darbytown road. General Anderson is here.

R. S. EWELL.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF, *September 29, 1864—3 p. m.*

General BRAGG:

The attack on Fort Gilmer was repulsed by General Field and General Gregg handsomely. We will take the offensive as soon as troops come up.

R. S. EWELL.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 29, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. S. EWELL, *Chaffin's Bluff:*

Can you not draw some troops from your left to retake Fort Harrison? It will take time for troops from here to reach north side. Don't wait for them; endeavor to retake the salient at once. Pickett has been ordered to send a brigade to north side.

R. E. LEE.

WILLIAMSBURG ROAD, *September 29, 1864.*

General BRAGG:

I do not think the danger is much on this line at present.

J. C. PEMBERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

PETERSBURG, *September 29, 1864—7.45 a. m.*

General PICKETT, *Hancock's House:*

Enemy seems to be moving against Signal Hill. I wish you to proceed to the left of your line. Watch operations and endeavor to aid all in your power. See whether enemy have diminished in your front, and, if so, what re-enforcements you can send to north side. Request co-operation of the navy.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 29, 1864.

Major-General PICKETT, *Hancock's House:*

Major Pickett's telegram received. General Lee desires the regiments ordered to be in readiness to move, to be sent at once to the north side and report to commanding officer.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 29, 1864.

Major-General PICKETT, *Hancock's House:*

General Gregg reports having captured prisoners from Eighteenth Corps, who say they crossed just before day this morning. These troops may have left your front. General Lee says it is very desirable, if practicable, for you to relieve a brigade to be available for service on north side of James.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 29, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN GREGG, *Chaffin's Bluff:*

Telegram received. Similar report had first been received from pickets on south side. Endeavor to ascertain nature of movement and of what enemy's force is composed. General Field, with three brigades, has been ordered to north side.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
September 29, 1864.

Col. G. H. TERRETT, *Drewry's Bluff:*

Telegram received. Can you not send a force to defend the bridge above Chaffin's from this end? Communicate with commander of James River Squadron and request him to see to protection of bridge by his boats.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
September 29, 1864—11.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel OTEY, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: Your communication of this date, inquiring if I can extend to the right so as to relieve Cooke's brigade, has been received. In reply, I have simply to state that I will relieve Cooke's brigade, and have given the necessary orders to accomplish that object.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
September 29, 1864.

Lieut. Col. JOHN M. OTEY, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: My assistant adjutant-general, Captain Foote, has perhaps informed you that the authority to stop the movement for relieving Cooke's brigade could not be communicated before we had covered his position. If this brigade is not withdrawn from the city to-night I would suggest that it should be placed in vicinity of Blandford Cemetery as a reserve force, or a regiment of it might be placed at each of the salients on my line—Colquitt's, Elliott's, Gracie's—and the left of my line in reserve.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Petersburg, September 29, 1864.

General BAKER, *Goldsborough, N. C.:*

Procure negro labor and finish works and redoubts at Weldon as soon as possible. Strengthen them thoroughly with abatis.

R. E. LEE.

Abstract from inspection report of Anderson's division, Maj. Gen. William Mahone commanding, for September 29, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate effective for the field.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.			
Mahone's brigade (Weisiger)	72	968	.....	1,232	2,598
Harris' brigade (Harris)	61	498	.....	897	1,915
Wright's brigade (Gibson)	67	1,037	.....	1,390	2,988
Finegan's brigade, Perry's brigade, (Finegan)	86	592	.....	667	3,181
Total	286	3,095	3,381	4,686	10,682

Organization of Anderson's Division.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM MAHONE.

Mahone's Brigade.

Col. DAVID A. WEISIGER.

6th Virginia, Col. George T. Rogers.
12th Virginia, Maj. J. Richard Lewellen.
16th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Richard O. Whitehead.
41st Virginia, Lieut. Col. Joseph P. Minetree.
61st Virginia, Lieut. Col. William H. Stewart.

Harris' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. NATHANIEL H. HARRIS.

12th Mississippi, Lieut. Col. Thomas B. Manlove.
16th Mississippi, Capt. John S. Lewis.
19th Mississippi, Col. Richard W. Phipps.
48th Mississippi, Col. Joseph M. Jayne.

Wright's Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM GIBSON.

3d Georgia, Capt. James K. Wright.
22d Georgia, Capt. George W. Thomas.
48th Georgia, Lieut. Col. M. R. Hall.
64th Georgia, Capt. James G. Brown.
2d Georgia Battalion, Capt. George S. Jones.
10th Georgia Battalion, Capt. William A. Greer.

Finegan's and Perry's Brigades.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN.

2d Florida, Capt. John B. G. O'Neill.
5th Florida, Capt. John W. Holleyman.
8th Florida, J. Anthony Pacetty.
9th Florida, Col. John M. Martin.
10th Florida, Lieut. Col. William W. Scott.
11th Florida,* Col. Theodore W. Brevard.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF, *September 30, 1864—8.10 p. m.*

Hon. JAS. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

An attempt was made this afternoon to retake Battery Harrison, which, though partly successful, failed.

R. E. LEE.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. —. HDQRS. ARTY., ARMY OF NORTHERN VA., *September 30, 1864.*

I. Battalion commanders will make arrangements with the engineer officers to have all guns which are exposed to the fire of the enemy's

* Two companies Bonaud's (Georgia) battalion attached to this regiment.

sharpshooters immediately provided with mantlets, to protect the gunners, of the pattern now being furnished by the engineers, and also to provide on each flank of every gun on the lines a lookout loop-hole for sentries and gunners, covering the entire field of the fire of the gun. The pattern of loop-hole adopted, or the loop-holes themselves, can be obtained at the engineer workshops of Lieutenant Wise, in Petersburg, near the back of the Weldon railroad.

II. Should the enemy open a general bombardment along the lines, guns and men will be kept under cover and no reply made to their artillery fire without special instructions. One sentinel will be kept constantly on the alert at every gun, observing the ground in front through one of the loop-holes by day and by night, to report any movement of troops or preparations for an assault of the enemy. The commanding officer of each battery will be held responsible for the vigilance of this watch. Should any troops appear within range at any time every available gun will immediately open upon them. Should the bombardment be kept up during the night the sentries will be doubled at dark on the front lines, all guns run into position and their embrasures cleared, and those on the front lines be doubled-shotted with canister. The mortars during the bombardment will fire occasionally at the batteries of the enemy in their reach, and from a half hour after dark, and from midnight until daylight, will maintain a slow fire upon all ravines and positions within reach in which the enemy might mass troops, but will never allow their ammunition on hand to be reduced below thirty rounds per mortar unless the enemy should make a lodgment in our lines. Should this occur every available mortar will open upon his lodgment and the light ones will be moved up in the trenches and concentrated upon it.

III. All guns must be habitually kept covered from the enemy's fire and view during the day, and at night moved into position. Mantlets will not be wanted to protect from artillery fire alone. They will be habitually kept mounted only on guns on the front lines, and those must be well concealed from view and fire.

By command of General Alexander, acting chief of artillery:

D. D. PENDLETON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Abstract from return of Wilcox's division, Ambrose P. Hill's corps, Maj. Gen. Cadmus M. Wilcox commanding, for September 30, 1864.

Command.	Aggregate present for duty.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Present effective for the field.
General staff	14	14	14	.....
Lane's brigade (Lane)	1,275	1,544	3,617	1,275
Thomas' brigade (Thomas)	994	1,258	2,180	1,172
McGowan's brigade (McGowan)	1,287	1,503	3,156	1,296
Scales' brigade (Scales)	1,210	1,500	3,009	1,212
Total	4,780	5,819	11,976	4,955

Organization of Wilcox's Division.

Maj. Gen. CADMUS M. WILCOX.

Lane's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JAMES H. LANE.

7th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. William L. Davidson.
18th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. John W. McGill.
28th North Carolina, Maj. Samuel N. Stowe.
33d North Carolina, Col. Robert V. Cowan.
37th North Carolina, Col. William M. Barbour.

McGowan's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. SAMUEL MCGOWAN.

1st South Carolina, Col. Charles W. McCreary.
1st South Carolina Rifles, Col. G. McDuffie Miller.
12th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. Edwin F. Bookter.
13th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. William Lester.
14th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. Edward Croft.

Thomas' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD L. THOMAS.

14th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Richard P. Lester.
35th Georgia, Maj. James T. McElvany.
45th Georgia, Capt. Aurelius W. Gibson.
49th Georgia, Col. John T. Jordan.

Scales' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ALFRED M. SCALES.

13th North Carolina, Col. Joseph H. Hyman.
16th North Carolina, Col. William A. Stowe.
22d North Carolina, Col. Thomas S. Gallaway, jr.
34th North Carolina, Col. William L. J. Lowrance.
38th North Carolina, Col. John Ashford.

Strength of Heth's division, Third Army Corps, Maj. Gen. Henry Heth commanding, for September 30, 1864.

Command.	Aggregate present for duty.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Present effective for the field.
Division field and staff	6	6	9	.....
Archer's brigade (Archer)	1,283	1,540	3,601	1,153
Davis' brigade (Davis)	927	1,022	2,869	1,072
MacRae's brigade (MacRae)	1,394	1,757	3,099	1,231
Total	3,610	4,375	9,578	3,456

Organization of Heth's Division.

Maj. Gen. HENRY HETH.

Archer's and Walker's Brigades.

Brig. Gen. JAMES J. ARCHER.

13th Alabama, Lieut. Col. James Aiken.
1st Tennessee, Capt. William S. Daniel.
7th Tennessee, Lieut. Col. Samuel G. Shepard.
14th Tennessee, Col. William McComb.
2d Maryland Battalion, Capt. John W. Torsch.
40th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Arthur S. Cunningham.
47th Virginia, Capt. E. L. Wharton.
55th Virginia, Maj. Robert B. Fauntleroy.
22d Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Edward P. Tayloe.

Davis' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH R. DAVIS.

1st Confederate Battalion, Lieut. Col. Francis B. McClung.
2d Mississippi, Col. John M. Stone.
11th Mississippi, Maj. Reuben O. Reynolds
26th Mississippi, Col. Arthur E. Reynolds.
42d Mississippi, Capt. Thomas R. Smith.
55th North Carolina, Capt. Walter A. Whitted.

MacRae's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM MACRA.

11th North Carolina, Col. William J. Martin.
26th North Carolina, Maj. James T. Adams.
44th North Carolina, Maj. Charles M. Stedman.
47th North Carolina, Maj. William C. Lankford.
52d North Carolina, Lieut. William W. Carmichael

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*Strength of the Third Corps Artillery, Army of Northern Virginia, Col. R. L. Walker commanding, September 30, 1864.**

Command.	Present for duty.		Present and absent.		Present effective for the field.		Guns.	Serviceable horses.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.		
Staff	7	10	8	10	7	10	.....	.....
Cutts' battalion†	26	604	49	984	26	604	32	265
McIntosh's battalion	24	414	27	719	24	414	21	221
Pegram's battalion	9	363	23	647	9	363	20	159
Poague's battalion	14	188	22	449	14	188	13	128
Washington Artillery	17	271	24	411	17	271	14	119
Total	97	1,850	153	3,220	97	1,850	100	892

Strength of the Cavalry Corps, Army of Northern Virginia, Maj. Gen. Wade Hampton commanding, for September 30, 1864.‡

Command.	Aggregate present for duty.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Present effective for the field.	Pieces of field artillery.
General staff	72	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lee's division (Lee)	2,684	3,243	5,707	2,241	.....
Butler's division (Butler)	1,510	2,111	6,302	882	.....
Dearing's brigade (Dearing)	1,374	1,636	2,226	937	.....
Artillery (Chew)	222	254	333	227	12
Total	5,862	7,244	14,568	4,287	.....

* From Capt. Richard Walke's report of inspection at that date.
† Comprising Lane's and Richardson's battalions.
‡ As shown by inspection report of Maj. A. R. Venable.

Organization of Cavalry Corps, Army of Northern Virginia.

Maj. Gen. WADE HAMPTON.

LEE'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM H. F. LEE.

Chambliss' Brigade.

Col. J. LUCIUS DAVIS.

9th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Thomas Waller.
10th Virginia, Capt. John H. Dettor.
13th Virginia, Col. Jefferson C. Phillips.

Barringer's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. RUFUS BARRINGER.

1st North Carolina, Col. William H. Cheek.
2d North Carolina, Col. William P. Roberts.
3d North Carolina, Maj. Roger Moore.
5th North Carolina, Maj. James H. McNeill.

BUTLER'S DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. MATTHEW C. BUTLER.

Butler's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN DUNOVANT.

4th South Carolina, Col. B. Huger Rutledge.
5th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. Robert J. Jeffords.
6th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. Lovick P. Miller.

Young's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. PIERCE M. B. YOUNG.

7th Georgia, Maj. Edward C. Anderson, jr.
Alabama Battalion, Phillips (Georgia) Legion, } Lieut. Col. William W. Rich.
20th Georgia Battalion, Jeff. Davis Legion, } Lieut. Col. J. Fred. Waring.
Cobb's Legion, Capt. John H. Burr.

DEARING'S BRIGADE.

Brig. Gen. JAMES DEARING.

7th Confederate, Col. V. H. Taliaferro.
4th North Carolina, Col. Dennis D. Ferebee.
8th Georgia, Col. Joel R. Griffin.

ARTILLERY.

Maj. R. PRESTON CHEW.

Hart's (South Carolina) battery, Capt. James F. Hart.
McGregor's (Virginia) battery, Capt. William M. McGregor.
Petersburg (Virginia) Light Battery, Capt. Edward Graham.

Abstract from return of the troops commanded by Maj. Gen. Bushrod R. Johnson, for September 30, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Prisoners of war.
	Officers.	Men.				
Staff	7	5	5	12	14	.....
Elliott's brigade	96	905	1,023	1,528	3,150	262
Wise's brigade	108	891	949	1,463	2,834	281
Gracie's brigade	109	1,096	1,062	1,636	2,839	155
Ransom's brigade	132	1,389	1,387	2,124	3,774	347
Total	452	4,286	4,426	6,763	12,611	1,045

Organization of Johnson's Command.

Maj. Gen. BUSHROD R. JOHNSON.

Elliott's Brigade.

17th South Carolina, Col. Fitz W. McMaster.
18th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. W. B. Allison.
22d South Carolina, Lieut. Col. William G. Burt.
23d South Carolina, Col. Henry L. Benbow.
26th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. Joshua H. Hudson.

Wise's Brigade.

26th Virginia, Capt. Napoleon B. Street.
34th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Randolph Harrison.
46th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Peyton Wise.
59th Virginia, Capt. James L. Jennett.

Ransom's Brigade.

24th North Carolina Regiment.
25th North Carolina Regiment.
35th North Carolina Regiment.
49th North Carolina Regiment.
56th North Carolina Regiment.

Gracie's Brigade.

23d Alabama Battalion.
41st Alabama Regiment.
43d Alabama Regiment.
59th Alabama Regiment.
60th Alabama Regiment.

ALTERNATE DESIGNATIONS

OF

ORGANIZATIONS MENTIONED IN THIS VOLUME.*

Abbot's (Henry L.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Abbott's (Joseph C.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Able's (T. N.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 22d Regiment.*
Adams' (Charles F., jr.) **Cavalry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Adams' (James T.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 26th Regiment.*
Adams' (Zachariah T.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 13th Battalion, Battery D.*
Ager's (George) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery K.*
[illegible]on's (Hugh K.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Aiken's (James) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Albemarle Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Alden's (Alonzo) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 169th Regiment.*
Alleghany Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Allen's (David A) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 39th Regiment.*
Allen's (Richard J.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment*
Allison's (W. B.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 18th Regiment.*
Ames' (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 6th Regiment.*
Ames' (Nelson) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery G.*
Amherst Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Anderson's (Charles L.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery L.*
Anderson's (Edward C., jr.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Anderson's (James L.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 2d Regiment.*
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Griffin's (Thomas M.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 18th Regiment.*
Griggs' (George K.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 38th Regiment.*
Grimes' (Bryan) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
Grindlay's (James) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 146th Regiment.*
Groner's (Virginius D.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 61st Regiment.*
Grubb's (E. Burd) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 37th Regiment.*
Guest's (Adolphus A.) **Sharpshooters.** See *Union Troops, Volunteers, 2d Regiment.*
Hagood's (James R.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, Volunteers.*
Haines' (Benjamin F.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Hall's (Josephus M.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Hall's (Matthew R.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 48th Regiment.*
Hall's (Robert M.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
Hall's (William C. J.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 23d Regiment.*
Ham's (Joseph H.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 16th Regiment.*
Hamilton's (Daniel H.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, P. A.*
Hamilton's (Isaac T.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 110th Regiment.*
Hamilton's (Joseph) **Infantry.** See *Phillips Legion, post.*
Hamlin's (James H.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 145th Regiment.*
Hamlink's (Derrick F.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 4th Regiment, Battery D.*
Hampden Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Hampton Legion. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Hancock's (John M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 2d Battalion.*
Hardaway Artillery. See *William B. Hurt's Artillery, post.*
Harding's (Henry) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 61st Regiment.*
Hardwick's (William M.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 48th Regiment.*
Hardwicke's (William W.) **Artillery.** See *Lee Artillery, post.*
Harman's (Asher W.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 12th Regiment.*
Harney's (George) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 147th Regiment.*
Harrill's (Lawson) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 56th Regiment.*
Harriman's (Samuel) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 37th Regiment.*
Harris' (James G.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment.*
Harris' (John L.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 24th Regiment.*
Harris' (William T.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Harrison's (Archibald T.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 30th Regiment.*
Harrison's (Julian) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 6th Regiment.*
Harrison's (Randolph) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 34th Regiment.*
Harrower's (Henry G.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 86th Regiment.*
Hart's (James F.) **Artillery.** See *Washington (S. C.) Artillery, post.*
Hart's (Patrick) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 15th Battery.*
Harwood's (Franklin) **Engineers.** See *Union Troops, Regulars.*
Haynes' (Charles L.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 27th Regiment.*
Haywood's (Edward G.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment.*

Hazley's (James) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 89th Regiment.*
Heald's (John A.) **Cavalry.** See *Maine Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Healy's (Virgil M.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Heffron's (Henry G.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 79th Regiment.*
Heggart's (Robert) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 164th Regiment.*
Henagan's (John W.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Henderson's (William) **Engineers.** See *New York Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Henry's (Thomas) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 140th Regiment.*
Hensley's (James O.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 10th Battalion.*
Herbert's (Arthur) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 17th Regiment.*
Herbert's (James R.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*
Higginbotham's (John C.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 25th Regiment.*
Hill's (Lewis H.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 61st Regiment.*
Hindes' (George W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 96th Regiment.*
Hitchcock's (George H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 132d Regiment.*
Hobson's (Owen H.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Hodges' (Wesley C.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 17th Regiment.*
Hoffman's (John S.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 31st Regiment.*
Hoge's (Edward F.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Hogg's (George) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Holcombe Legion. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Holleyman's (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Holliday's (Frederick W. M.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 33d Regiment.*
Hollis' (Abijah) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 56th Regiment.*
Holman's (John H.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 1st Regiment.*
Holmes' (Joseph W.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Holt's (Willis C.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Hood's (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion (Operatives).*
Hooks' (Boaz F.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Senior Reserves.*
Hopkins' (Charles F.) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Hopper's (George C.) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Hopper's (George F.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Horton's (Everett S.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 58th Regiment.*
Hough's (John S.) **Cavalry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Howard's (William A.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Howell's (John H.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery M.*
Howie's (Sandford G.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 35th Regiment.*
Hubbard's (Stephen L.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 4th Regiment, Battery L.*
Hudson's (Joshua H.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 26th Regiment.*
Hueston's (Edgar J.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 111th Regiment.*
Huger Artillery. See *Joseph D. Moore's Artillery, post.*
Huggins' (James H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 23d Regiment.*
Hughes' (Chester K.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 143d Regiment.*
Hughs' (John M.) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, 25th Regiment.*
Huguley's (George W.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 59th Regiment.*
Hunt's (Horatio N.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 64th Regiment.*
Hurt's (William B.) **Artillery.** See *Alabama Troops.*
Hutchins' (Nathan L., jr.) **Sharpshooters.** See *Georgia Troops, 3d Battalion.*

Hyman's (Joseph H.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 13th Regiment.*
Ingraham's (Charles H.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 14th Regiment.*
Irvin's (John) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 106th Regiment.*
Irvin's (John) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 149th Regiment.*
Irwin Artillery. See *Sumter Artillery, post, Battery C.*
Ives' (Lucius H.) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 26th Regiment.*
Jack's (John T.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 56th Regiment.*
James' (Martin S.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery C.*
Jameson's (Thorndike C.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, Colored.*
Jardine's (George) **Sharpshooters.** See *Michigan Troops.*
Jarvis' (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Reserves.*
Jayne's (Joseph M.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 48th Regiment.*
Jeff. Davis Artillery. See *Alabama Troops.*
Jeff. Davis Legion, Cavalry. See *Mississippi Troops.*
Jeffords' (Robert J.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Jennett's (James L.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 59th Regiment.*
Johannes' (John G.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 8th Regiment.*
Johnson's (J. M.) **Infantry.** See *Confederate Troops, 1st Battalion.*
Johnson's (John A.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 28th Regiment.*
Johnson's (Marmaduke) **Artillery.** See *Valentine J. Clutter's Artillery, ante.*
Johnson's (Philip) **Infantry.** See *Delaware Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Johnston's (Charles F.) **Artillery.** See *Albemarle Artillery, ante.*
Jolly's (John J.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 43d Regiment.*
Jones' (Edward J.) **Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 11th Battery.*
Jones' (Enoch) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery C.*
Jones' (George H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 22d Regiment.*
Jones' (George S.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 2d Battalion.*
Jones' (George W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 150th Regiment.*
Jones' (Josiah N.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 32d Regiment.*
Jones' (Lorraine F.) **Artillery.** See *Richmond Howitzers, post, 2d Company.*
Jordan's (John T.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 49th Regiment.*
Jordan's (John V.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 31st Regiment.*
Jourdan's (James) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 158th Regiment.*
Judson's (Amos M.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 83d Regiment.*
Kenan's (Thomas S.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 43d Regiment.*
Kennedy's (John D.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Kerr's (Robert M.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Kerr's (Thomas) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Kerwin's (Michael) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Kesselmark's (John M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 46th Regiment.*
Kester's (John W.) **Cavalry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Ketchum's (William A.) **Engineers.** See *New York Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Key's (John C. G.) **Infantry.** See *Texas Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Kiddoo's (Joseph B.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 22d Regiment.*
King's (J. Horace) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 9th Regiment.*
King's (Robert G.) **Infantry.** See *Purnell Legion, post.*
King William Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Kinsey's (Neri B.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 190th Regiment.*
Kirby's (George B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 47th Regiment.*
Kirkpatrick's (Thomas J.) **Artillery.** See *Amherst Artillery, ante.*

Kitching's (J. Howard) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Kleckner's (Charles) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 134th Regiment.*
Klein's (Daniel) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Kleinz's (Christopher) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Knowles' (Oliver B.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Korte's (Frederick) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery M.*
Kreutzer's (William) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 98th Regiment.*
Lamar's (John H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 61st Regiment.*
Lamar's (Thomas B.) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Lamb's (William) **Heavy Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*
Lane's (John R.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 26th Regiment.*
Lang's (David) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Lang's (Nathaniel) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 121st Regiment.*
Langdon's (Loomis L.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery M.*
Langhorne's (Maurice S.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 11th Regiment.*
Langley's (Frank H.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment.*
Lankford's (William C.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 47th Regiment.*
Lansing's (Jacob H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 86th Regiment.*
Larkin's (James E.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Lee Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Lee's (Edgar J.) **Artillery.** See *Montgomery True Blues, Artillery, post.*
Lee's (John C.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 99th Regiment.*
Lee's (John D.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 20th Regiment.*
Lee's (Richard H.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 16th Battery.*
Lentz's (John D.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 91st Regiment.*
Lesesne's (Henry H.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 23d Regiment.*
Lester's (Richard P.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 14th Regiment.*
Lester's (William) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Letcher Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Lewellen's (J. Richard) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 12th Regiment.*
Lewis' (George W.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Lewis' (John S.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 16th Regiment.*
Lewis' (John W.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Lewis' (Wellington M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 89th Regiment.*
Lightfoot's (James N.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Little's (Francis H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Locke's (Arthur C.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Lofton's (John T.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Loomis' (Adgate L.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 31st Regiment.*
Lord's (Newton B.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 20th Regiment.*
Louisiana Guard, Artillery. See *Louisiana Troops.*
Love's (Andrew P.) **Cavalry.** See *Alabama Troops, 4th Battalion.*
Love's (Matthew N.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 25th Regiment.*
Lowrance's (William L. J.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 34th Regiment.*
Lowry's (William B.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Lowther's (Alexander A.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Lucas' (J. Jonathan) **Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops, 15th Battalion.*
Ludlow's (Israel) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery A.*

Luning's (Adolph) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 10th Regiment.*
McArthur's (William M.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 8th Regiment.*
McCallum's (Alexander) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 8th Regiment.*
McChesney's (Joseph M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
McClung's (Francis B.) **Infantry.** See *Confederate Troops, 1st Battalion.*
McComb's (William) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, 14th Regiment.*
McCormic's (James L.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment;* also *1st Battalion.*
McCreary's (Charles W.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, P. A.*
McCulloch Rangers. See *Louisiana Troops.*
McCullohs' (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 35th Regiment.*
McDonald's (Alexander J.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery F.*
McElvany's (James T.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 35th Regiment.*
McFarlan's (James E.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 11th Regiment.*
McGill's (John W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 18th Regiment.*
McGlashan's (Peter) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 50th Regiment.*
McGregor's (William M.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
McIntyre's (Martin V.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 7th Battery.*
McIvor's (James P.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 170th Regiment.*
McKethan's (Hector) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 51st Regiment.*
McKnight's (George F.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 12th Battery.*
McLain's (Alexander S.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Battery.*
McMahon's (John) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 94th Regiment.*
McMaster's (Fitz William) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 17th Regiment.*
McNeill's (James H.) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 5th Regiment.*
Macon Artillery. See *Georgia Troops.*
Macon's (Miles C.) **Artillery.** See *Richmond Fayette Artillery, post.*
Madison Artillery. See *Louisiana Troops.*
Madison Light Artillery. See *Mississippi Troops.*
Mahon's (James D.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Majtheny's (Theodore) **Cavalry.** See *Indiana Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Manlove's (Thomas B.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 12th and 48th Regiments.*
Manly's (Basil C.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Battery A.*
Mann's (Daniel P.) **Cavalry.** See *Oneida Cavalry, post.*
Manning's (Van H.) **Infantry.** See *Arkansas Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Mapes' (William H.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 2d Regiment (Mounted Rifles).*
Marshall's (William C.) **Artillery.** See *Fauquier Artillery, ante.*
Martin's (John M.) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Martin's (Robert D.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Martin's (S. Taylor) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Martin's (William J.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 11th Regiment.*
Marye's (Edward A.) **Artillery.** See *Fredericksburg Artillery, ante.*
Massie's (John L.) **Artillery.** See *Fluvanna Artillery, ante.*
Mathews' (James D.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 38th Regiment.*
Matthewson's (Angell) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery E.*
Maurin's (Victor) **Artillery.** See *Donaldsonville Artillery, ante.*
Maury's (Richard L.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 24th Regiment.*
Mayer's (Edelmiro) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 8th Regiment.*

Mayo's (Ezekiel R.) **Artillery.** See *Maine Troops, 3d Battery.*
Mayo's (Joseph, jr.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment.*
Mayo's (Robert M.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 47th Regiment.*
Meikel's (George W.) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 20th Regiment;* also *Union Troops, 2d Regiment, Sharpshooters.*
Mercer's (John T.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Mercer's (Lawrence) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 81st Regiment.*
Merrill's (Charles B.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 17th Regiment.*
Merrill's (Simeon H.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Milledge's (John, jr.) **Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
Millen's (John M.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 20th Battalion.*
Miller's (Benjamin T.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Batteries G and H.*
Miller's (George McD. [illegible]y. See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, Rifles.*
Miller's (John O.) Artil[illegible]. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Battery E.*
Miller's (Lovick P.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Miller's (William C.) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
Milton's (Richard S.) **Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 9th Battery.*
Minetree's (Joseph P.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 41st Regiment.*
Mink's (Charles E.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery H.*
Mobley's (Edward M.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 7th Regiment.*
Moffett's (Charles J.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 2d Battalion.*
Monaghan's (William) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Montague's (Edgar B.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 32d Regiment.*
Montgomery True Blues, Artillery. See *Alabama Troops.*
Moody's (Daniel N.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Moody's (George V.) **Artillery.** See *Madison Artillery, ante.*
Moore's (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 203d Regiment.*
Moore's (Joseph D.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Moore's (Roger) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment.*
Moore's (Samuel A.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 14th Regiment.*
Moore's (Walter R.) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Moran's (James) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 5th Regiment, Battery D.*
Morris Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Morris' (Louis M.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Morris' (P. A. S.) **Cavalry.** See *Confederate Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Morrison's (Emmett M.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 15th Regiment.*
Morrison's (Joseph J.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 16th Regiment.*
Morrow's (Thomas G.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Mosby's (Robert G.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 59th Regiment.*
Mounger's (John C. L.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Mudgett's (Isaac N.) **Sharpshooters.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 1st Company.*
Munford's (Thomas T.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*
Murchison's (Kenneth M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 54th Regiment.*
Murphy's (Joseph M.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Murphy's (Murtha) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 69th Regiment.*
Murray's (John B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 148th Regiment.*
Myers' (Ezekiel) **Artillery.** See *Rowan Artillery, post.*
Myrick's (John R.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 3d Regiment, Battery E.*
Nadenbousch's (John Q. A.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*
Naegely's (Henry) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 2d Regiment.*

Naval Battalion, Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 4th Battalion, Local Defense.*
Neal's (James H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 19th Regiment.*
Neblett Heavy Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Neeper's (William B.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 57th Regiment.*
Nelson Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Nelson's (Andrew M.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 42d Regiment.*
Nelson's (George S.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 39th Regiment.*
Nethercutt's (John H.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 66th Regiment.*
Newberry's (Walter C.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 24th Regiment.*
New York 1st Mounted Rifles. See *New York Troops, 7th Regiment, Cavalry.*
New York 20th Militia, Infantry. See *New York Troops, 80th Regiment.*
New York 69th National Guard, Artillery. See *New York Troops, 182d Regiment, Infantry.*
Nichols' (George F.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 118th Regiment.*
Norfolk Blues, Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
North Carolina 10th Regiment. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Artillery.*
North Carolina 36th Regiment. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment, Heavy Artillery.*
North Carolina 40th Regiment. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment, Heavy Artillery.*
Oakman's (Hiram A.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 30th Regiment.*
O'Brien's (Alfred G.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Oneida Cavalry. See *New York Troops.*
O'Neill's (Henry) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 118th Regiment.*
O'Neill's (John B. G.) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Orange Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Orr's (James L.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, Rifles.*
Orr's (William) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 19th Regiment.*
Orwig's (Thomas G.) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery E.*
Otey Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Otis' (Elwell S.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 140th Regiment.*
Overton's (Edward, jr.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 50th Regiment.*
Owen's (Thomas H.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment.*
Owens' (William A.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 53d Regiment.*
Pacetty's (J. Anthony) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Palmetto Artillery No. 2. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Palmetto Sharpshooters, Infantry. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Parham's (William A.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 41st Regiment.*
Paris' (Andrew B.) **Artillery.** See *Staunton Hill Artillery, post.*
Park's (Wisner) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 40th Regiment.*
Parker's (Francis M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 30th Regiment.*
Parker's (William W.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Parks' (Marcus A.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 52d Regiment.*
Parsons' (Augustin N.) **Artillery.** See *New Jersey Troops, 1st Battery.*
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